

20020103.qrp v02_n425.qrl.20020103

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 19:03:09 EST
From: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: QRP-L digest 2425

QRP-L Digest 2425

Topics covered in this issue include:

- 1) [116787] Re: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
by Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@panix.com>
- 2) [116788] RE: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
by Mark Schoonover <schoon@amgt.com>
- 3) [116789] QRPpp x QRPp
by David Gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
- 4) [116790] RE: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
by Stephen Hawkins <grayline@mindspring.com>
- 5) [116791] Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
by Caitlyn Martin <ku4qd@qsl.net>
- 6) [116792] Magnetic Loop Update
by Alex <kr1st@amsat.org>
- 7) [116793] Re: QRPpp x QRPp
by Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
- 8) [116794] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
by "John Moriarity" <k6qq@hdo.net>
- 9) [116795] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
by "Trevor Jacobs" <fxtech@earthlink.net>
- 10) [116796] Special Truffle Operator?
by "N8IE" <n8ie@woh.rr.com>
- 11) [116797] Re: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
by "Jim Stamper" <jstamper@shentel.net>
- 12) [116798] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
by Caitlyn Martin <ku4qd@qsl.net>
- 13) [116799] cathode keying voltage of typical Novice rig
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 14) [116800] cathode keying
by hamjoel@juno.com
- 15) [116801] NEQRP CW Net, 3 January 2002, 8:30 PM EST, 3.565MHz
by Chuck Ludinsky <cjl@mitre.org>
- 16) [116802] N2WW Fox Tomorrow Night
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
- 17) [116803] vertical dipole answer
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 18) [116804] FOX: Second Half starts tomorrow!
by "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
- 19) [116805] Getting Viruses from this Internet Address from QRP-L

- by "Trevor Jacobs" <fxtech@earthlink.net>
- 20) [116806] Website Revamp
by "K7FD N7SG" <k7fd@hotmail.com>
- 21) [116807] Re: First Year Licensed
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 22) [116808] Re: vertical dipole answer
by IamSF5@aol.com
- 23) [116809] Re: Real QRPper?
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 24) [116810] O,T, Apology for virus
by "Galahad" <galahad@worldnet.att.net>
- 25) [116811] 2n-40 rig question
by "TC Dufresne" <tdufresne@neb.rr.com>
- 26) [116812] Re: SMT Practice Kit
by George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
- 27) [116813] Re: cathode keying
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 28) [116814] An Extra Challenge?
by "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
- 29) [116815] Re: vertical dipole answer
by k8ff@juno.com
- 30) [116816] Re: vertical dipole answer
by "Steve Lawrence" <Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM>
- 31) [116817] Re: 2n-40 rig question
by "Jim Stamper" <jstamper@shentel.net>
- 32) [116818] [OT]Coax Supplier
by Kenneth Hoglund <hoglund@wfu.edu>
- 33) [116819] Workbench Top Recommendations?
by Glen Reid <k5fx@arrl.net>
- 34) [116820] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
- 35) [116821] Help with RF Choke
by Tim O'Rourke <TORourke@KaiserFT.com>
- 36) [116822] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 37) [116823] Re: Help with RF Choke
by "Ingo, DK3RED" <dk3red@t-online.de>
- 38) [116824] Re: Help with RF Choke
by Bob Liesenfeld <wb0poq@visi.com>
- 39) [116825] Re: Canaday logging program
by Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
- 40) [116826] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
- 41) [116827] Re: RICE vs. CONUS RADIOS
by R Ramirez <kb2ypx@yahoo.com>
- 42) [116828] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by "w2wurjj" <w2wurjj@verizon.net>
- 43) [116829] SMT practice kit

- by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 44) [116830] Re: 2n-40 rig question
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
- 45) [116831] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
- 46) [116832] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
- 47) [116833] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
by "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
- 48) [116834] Re: 2n-40 rig question
by wb0wao@hotmail.com (Dennis Ponsness)
- 49) [116835] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by Brian Short <k7on@earthlink.net>
- 50) [116836] re 2n-40 rig Question
by <jfox6@houston.rr.com>
- 51) [116837] FS: QRP+
by "Jerry Bartachek" <leadsheet@musician.org>
- 52) [116838] Re: [AQR] Workbench Top Recommendations?
by "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
- 53) [116839] Lux-Log , Anyone Have it?
by "Mark S. Adams, P.E." <msadams@acsu.buffalo.edu>
- 54) [116840] Small Solar Panel?
by "Steve Lawrence" <Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM>
- 55) [116841] White Mountain serie ssb transceiver
by "Ernest Rodriguez" <hitruz@hotmail.com>
- 56) [116842] First Kit Suggestions?
by Boliver Allmon <Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com>
- 57) [116843] Re: Small solar panel
by <n7dma@mindspring.com>
- 58) [116844] Re: Small Solar Panel?
by Brian Short <k7on@earthlink.net>
- 59) [116845] Re: NOT about - New Year's Resolution--No more angry posts
by Jim Larsen - AL7FS <AL7FS@ARRL.NET>
- 60) [116846] Re: White Mountain serie ssb transceiver
by "Randy Randall" <RANDALLR@Healthall.com>
- 61) [116847] Static damage
by "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
- 62) [116848] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by David Hinerman <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
- 63) [116849] Re: Static damage
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
- 64) [116850] RE: Static damage... Yes BUT...
by "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
- 65) [116851] Re: Small Solar Panel?
by Chris Cartwright <ccart@phideaux.com>
- 66) [116852] Re: Small Solar Panel?
by W2AGN <w2agn@pobox.com>
- 67) [116853] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?

by Russ Hines <wb8zcc@one.net>
68) [116854] RE: Static damage
by "Tracy Markham" <tracy@bytemark.com>
69) [116855] Re: RICE vs. CONUS RADIOS
by Steve <k8pz@earthlink.net>
70) [116856] workbenches
by Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
71) [116857] FW: First Kit Suggestions?
by Boliver Allmon <Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com>
72) [116858] Re: Static damage... Yes BUT...
by "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
73) [116859] Re: Static damage
by Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
74) [116860] RE: First Kit Suggestions?
by "Church, Norm" <norm.church@transcore.com>
75) [116861] Re: First Year Licensed
by Donn Kuse <casey.jay@gte.net>
76) [116862] Re: SWR, Theroy vs. Real World Conditions
by Ron KU7Y <mswmod@bigplanet.com>
77) [116863] Workbench Question?
by Lee Wilson <leesgoofy@usa.net>
78) [116864] Re: workbenches
by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
79) [116865] Re: Workbench Question?
by Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
80) [116866] Need source (cheap)
by "tmyers" <tmyers@AcademicPlanet.com>
81) [116867] Re: Workbench Question?
by "ZOOM" <kandrparker@sympatico.ca>
82) [116868] Re: Need source (cheap)
by "ZOOM" <kandrparker@sympatico.ca>
83) [116869] RE: workbenches
by "Tracy Markham" <tracy@bytemark.com>
84) [116870] Repaired Tuffle Report
by RLemmel@aol.com
85) [116871] Thanks to ALL who replied
by Glen Reid <k5fx@arrl.net>
86) [116872] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
by Dave Fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>
87) [116873] Fading Visual Acuity
by "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
88) [116874] Re: First Kit Suggestions?
by "ss lyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 19:38:02 -0500 (EST)
From: Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604 <faunt@panix.com>

To: psykey@okcforum.org
Cc: sjolin@swbell.net, psykey@okcforum.org, qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [116787] Re: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
Message-ID: <200201030038.g030c2s11130@panix1.panix.com>

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 14:48:45 -0600 (CST)
From: Jim Glover <psykey@okcforum.org>

> If you dont like anecdotal evidence, how long did it take the Army or
> Navy to train morse to tens of thousands of radio operators? It
> certainly didnt take years.

Oh, absolutely not. It took 8-10 hours a day, 5-7 days a week, according to stories I heard. Effective? Evidently! Applicable to people who already have job/life/school/avocations, and want to add amateur radio to an already full plate? Hardly.

And speaking of anecdotes, I've heard that at least some branches of the military in at least some times and places, apparently had some sort of aptitude screening for Morse training, and rejected those who started the program but couldn't keep up. Apparently not every Tom, Dick and Harry can learn the code in a reasonable time even if it's the only thing they do besides eat, sleep, etc.

Yep, I was young, pretty interested in electronics (and knowledgable, in fact) and I wanted to be an RM. They gave me an aptitude test, and said that I didn't cut it.

I went through AT "A" School at an accelerated speed (two or three times the normal speed) and was honorman (top grades) in my class.

Four years after failing the aptitude test, I got out as an ATN2 with a First Class Radiotelephone license, and a lapsed 1-year Novice.

RM was Radioman, ATN was Aviation Electronic Technician, Navigation and Communication, 2 means Second Class Petty Officer (E5), and of course it was the US Navy.

It took 20 years before I got back into it, and that was because of the internet and the patent attorney at the lab where I worked. The turkeys at HRO at the time put me off for a year or two.

73, doug

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 17:07:45 -0800
From: Mark Schoonover <schoon@amgt.com>

To: "'faunt@panix.com'" <faunt@panix.com>,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116788] RE: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
Message-ID: <BF889CEBEFD2D511B993009027F60ABE3BDE@AG-JASMINE-NT4>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 14:48:45 -0600 (CST)
From: Jim Glover <psykey@okcforum.org>

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I went through morse code school in 1986 for the USN. It was a 19 week course. Grad requirements were 22 wpm numbers and 20 wpm 5 letter groups... IIRC, only a couple didn't pass. They topped out at around 16 wpm. I almost was kicked out because I couldn't type 25 wpm... My argument was I'm not copying code outta a book, but over the air. They gave me the typing test at 25 wpm from the book!!

72

.mark

Date: Wed, 02 Jan 2002 19:25:08 -0600
From: David Gauding <david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116789] QRPpp x QRPp
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.0.20020102190104.00a323a0@bbs.galilei.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Good evening Milliwatters!

Finished a very pleasant fifteen minute QSO on 7.041 with K9IS in WI earlier tonight. Steve was running a homebrew one transistor Mighty-Mite

transmitter from W1FB's QRP Notebook. All of 25mW and it sounded absolutely perfect, a little QSB/QRM notwithstanding. Using a loop, I think.

Steve answered my CQ from a Corsair I dialed down to 250mW. I was using a St. Louis Express portable vertical over St. Louis Radials.

The annual St. Louis QRP Society builder's contest is coming in February! Just gotta' build one of the little 25mW peanut whistles or maybe the fire-breathing 150mW jobbie from W1FB's Design Notebook. <g>

This milliwatting stuff is truly a blast! I had gotten away from it this past year and just now recalling how much fun it can be.

Regards,

de Dave, NF0R nf0r@slacc.com

Date: Wed, 02 Jan 2002 17:29:15 -0800
From: Stephen Hawkins <grayline@mindspring.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116790] RE: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
Message-ID: <4.2.2.20020102171053.00a3ecd0@mail.mindspring.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

CW QRP,

At 05:07 PM 1/2/02 -0800, you wrote:

> Oh, absolutely not. It took 8-10 hours a day, 5-7 days a week, according
> to stories I heard. Effective? Evidently! Applicable to people who
> already have job/life/school/avocations, and want to add amateur radio
> to an already full plate? Hardly.
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> I went through morse code school in 1986 for the USN. It was a 19 week
> course.

I was a Radioman on a submarine in the late 1960's (USS Haddock SSN621). I

went through RM "A" School in San Diego in 1966. They started everybody out at what they called "single basic" or 4 wpm, although the individual letters were sent faster. When you could copy that at 90% accuracy they bumped you up in 2wpm increments. Most of the class was at 10WPM at the end of a week and a half. Those who had the hardest time were those who did not already know how to type. I did, and when I heard .._. I did not have to think of "F" and then think "Where the "F" Key was".

Learning code this way you don't think "F", your reaction is a knee jerk reaction. The sound goes directly from your ear to your finger on the typewriter key, bypassing your brain completely. When I got out of the Navy and went to take my Ham test and they would not let me use a typewriter and it was much more difficult as I could only write with a pencil at about 18 wpm. I could, at that time, copy 5 letter code groups through Russian Jamming at about 40 wpm. I could only copy with a pencil at about 18 and it was a struggle for a while.

BTW....for the last few months I was in the Navy I sent out the FOX sked at 50 WPM. But it was done with a Beckman Keyer. I fed in a paper teletype tape and out came CW. 8-)

Steve

Stephen Hawkins WV6U
grayline@mindspring.com
wv6u@arrl.net
73 49 111 0100 1001

Date: 02 Jan 2002 15:43:02 -0500
From: Caitlyn Martin <ku4qd@qsl.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116791] Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
Message-ID: <1010004184.2242.15.camel@localhost.localdomain>
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Mime-Version: 1.0

As usual I completely disagree with Bruce.

>
> I think the lead is largely gone for the Japanese equipment, but there
> are just NO American companies left that can compete with them except
> Ten Tec, and there they have a price issue.

What about Patcomm? The PC-9000 is a very nice, inexpensive little rig in the class of the Alinco DX-70TH, plus it's all setup for keyboard CW. (OK, CW by keyboard doesn't interest me at all, but some people like it.) It's one of three competitive HF/6m rigs they now make. In case you have't heard, they are widely rumored to have a new VHF/UHF rig in development as well.

Price problem? I think the Ten Tec 516 and 526 (their newest products), the Pegasus, and the Jupiter are all competitive in their class in terms of price.

> The small kit rigs you
> have, and the HW-9 are not representative of the state of the art,
> unless one of them is a K2.

Neither are the Mizuho kits and little QRP rigs, but they sell well in Japan, in Europe, and were sold here for nearly two decades. Neither are Nishi Musen's little toys. Simple, low power consumption, highly portable rigs are popular the world over. So... they may not be "state of the art", but they fill an area (albeit a niche) of demand that is the same here or in Japan. As such, they are an important part of the market.

The MFJ monoband rigs fit neatly into this class of rig, BTW, and they are made in the USA. Ditto the OHR and T-Kit (Ten Tec) kits.

> There is a vast difference between the
> Japanese product design and Americium manufacturers! Consider the cast
> panels, even Ten Tec does not make much use of them!

...and the choice of panels is critical exactly how? To me quality control is far more important, and that is something both Ten Tec and Patcomm excel at. They also have outstanding service departments and first class customer service. Some Japanese companies, notably small ones like Tokyo Hy-Power, are every bit as good in these areas, but in my experience the "big three" plus Alinco are not.

I'd also dare say that Ten Tec's recent additions to their product lines are state of the art designs. Radios that are firmware upgradable by the end user are the wave of the future.

Despite your claims to the contrary, the American ham radio companies have at least pulled even in terms of quality of design with the Japanese. The missing element is mind share. They need to convince the average ham that they have the best products for the dollar. For a long time they just didn't, but that, IMHO, has changed.

FWIW, my next new (not used) toys are likely to be the 516 and 526.

73,
Caity
KU4QD

Date: Wed, 02 Jan 2002 20:59:39 -0500
From: Alex <kr1st@amsat.org>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116792] Magnetic Loop Update
Message-ID: <3C33BB0B.1DF4AE51@amsat.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi there,

I updated my magnetic loop page with a more detailed description and pictures of my current (revised) coupling loop:

<http://www.qsl.net/kr1st/coupling.htm>

I also added a Tuning Stick to make tuning a bit easier. See near the bottom at:

<http://www.qsl.net/kr1st/magloop.htm>

Happy New Year to all!

73s,
--Alex

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 02:07:35 +0000
From: Larry Cahoon <lejek@erols.com>
To: david.gauding@bbs.galilei.com,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116793] Re: QRPpp x QRPp
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.0.20020103020300.00b62d68@pop.erols.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 07:25 PM 1/2/2002 -0600, David Gauding wrote:

>This milliwatting stuff is truly a blast! I had gotten away from it this
>past year and just now recalling how much fun it can be.

Dave, I must agree the milliwatting is a blast. After the Holiday
Milliwatt Contest, and in a moment of weakness, I decided to start
collecting the cards for 2xQRPP WAS. So a bunch of cards went out
today. I found two states I already had, so when the cards come in I
should be up to around 12 states confirmed. I guess I just need another
way to do WAS.

73 de Larry.....WD3P in MD
<http://www.qsl.net/wd3p/>

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 18:13:43 -0800
From: "John Moriarity" <k6qq@hdo.net>
To: <ku4qd@qsl.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116794] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
Message-ID: <010b01c193fc\$452e7a00\$805fa13f@k6qq>

> I'd also dare say that Ten Tec's recent additions to their product
lines
> are state of the art designs. Radios that are firmware upgradable by
> the end user are the wave of the future.

Caity,

I'd daresay that you aren't a professional radio designer.
Ten-Tec and Patcomm both have new radios that use
the currently fashionable technology, and the attendant
buzzwords. Neither of them approaches the state-of-the-art
in *performance*. But buzzwords sell radios!

Who makes sota equipment? No ham radio manufacturer.
Companies like Harris RF do, making radios to be used
in difficult environments like, say, a Navy ship, where
several high power rigs are in use at once. (But they also
make lesser radios for cost-conscious customers.)

Firmware upgradable radios *may* be the wave of the
future, but at this time, the ones I am aware of are less than
state-of-the-art as *radios*

73 & Happy New Year,

John, K6QQ

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 18:19:57 -0800
From: "Trevor Jacobs" <fxtech@earthlink.net>
To: <ku4qd@qsl.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116795] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
Message-ID: <003d01c193fd\$2418d260\$099fb2d1@tjacobs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Caity and all,

The funny thing is, that if you take the time to open up your rig, no matter who made it, the semiconductors are made all over the place, so no piece of gear not even the Japanese stuff is 100% from one country. We're living in a global community when it comes to electronics and most manufactured items these days.

Best 72/73's

Trev

KG6CYN

----- Original Message -----

From: Caitlyn Martin <ku4qd@qsl.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, January 02, 2002 12:43 PM
Subject: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)

> As usual I completely disagree with Bruce.
> >
> > I think the lead is largely gone for the Japanese equipment, but
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> > are just NO American companies left that can compete with them
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> like it.) It's one of three competitive HF/6m rigs they now make. In
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> Japan, in Europe, and were sold here for nearly two decades. Neither
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> portable rigs are popular the world over. So... they may not be
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> of the art", but they fill an area (albeit a niche) of demand that is
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> 73,
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> KU4QD
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>
>

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 21:25:35 -0500
From: "N8IE" <n8ie@woh.rr.com>
To: "QRP-1" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>, "FPQRP-1" <fpqrp-1@mpna.com>
Subject: [116796] Special Truffle Operator?
Message-ID: <MMEDLKDLOLONJOAIGICDJAIEEPCBAA.n8ie@woh.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Humm, who can it be scheduled to be a Truffle for 2/26/02?

Is this just hype or is it a really famous person who will man the hunt?

I guess we'll just have to wait and see, muhahahaha
Stay tuned for more clues!

72, oo
Dan, N8IE
FPQRP #-6, FISTS #4985
QRP-1 #1404, ARCI #11003

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 22:09:55 -0500
From: "Jim Stamper" <jstamper@shentel.net>
To: <faunt@panix.com>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116797] Re: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?
Message-ID: <002601c19404\$1f3d36d0\$f0556fcc@jim>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As I recall, to get into those courses you had first to have passed a "code aptitude test." IOW, the military screened people first before they tried to teach code.

----- Original Message -----

From: "Doug Faunt N6TQS +1-510-655-8604" <faunt@panix.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Wednesday, January 02, 2002 7:38 PM
Subject: Re: [116763] Re: How many other exceptions?

> Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 14:48:45 -0600 (CST)
> From: Jim Glover <psykey@okcforum.org>
>
> > If you dont like anectodal evidence, how long did it take the Army or
> > Navy to train morse to tens of thousands of radio operators? It
> > certainly didnt take years.
>
> Oh, absolutely not. It took 8-10 hours a day, 5-7 days a week,
according
> to stories I heard. Effective? Evidently! Applicable to people who
> already have job/life/school/avocations, and want to add amateur radio
> to an already full plate? Hardly.
>
> And speaking of anecdotes, I've heard that at least some branches of
> the military in at least some times and places, apparently had some
> sort of aptitude screening for Morse training, and rejected those
> who started the program but couldn't keep up. Apparently not every
> Tom, Dick and Harry can learn the code in a reasonable time even if
> it's the only thing they do besides eat, sleep, etc.
>
> Yep, I was young, pretty interested in electronics (and knowledgable,
> in fact) and I wanted to be an RM. They gave me an aptitude test, and
> said that I didn't cut it.
>
> I went through AT "A" School at an accelerated speed (two or three
> times the normal speed) and was honorman (top grades) in my class.
>
> Four years after failing the aptitude test, I got out as an ATN2 with
> a First Class Radiotelephone license, and a lapsed 1-year Novice.
>
> RM was Radioman, ATN was Aviation Electronic Technician, Navigation
> and Communication, 2 means Second Class Petty Officer (E5), and of
> course it was the US Navy.

>
> It took 20 years before I got back into it, and that was because of
> the internet and the patent attorney at the lab where I worked.
> The turkeys at HRO at the time put me off for a year or two.
>
> 73, doug
>

Date: 02 Jan 2002 17:15:15 -0500
From: Caitlyn Martin <ku4qd@qsl.net>
To: John Moriarity <k6qq@hdo.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116798] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
Message-ID: <1010009728.2240.25.camel@localhost.localdomain>
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Mime-Version: 1.0

Hi, John, and everyone else,

>
> Who makes sota equipment? No ham radio manufacturer.
> Companies like Harris RF do, making radios to be used
> in difficult environments like, say, a Navy ship, where
> several high power rigs are in use at once. (But they also
> make lesser radios for cost-conscious customers.)

Harris is a commercial manufacturer, and they are out of reach of most hams. They also do not market to the ham community so far as I know. Your comparison is valid, technically, but you are comparing apples and oranges.

>
> Firmware upgradable radios *may* be the wave of the
> future, but at this time, the ones I am aware of are less than
> state-of-the-art as *radios*

As commercial radios your are 100% correct. As ham rigs (compared to what Icom, Yaesu, Kenwood, and Alinco offer) they are.

I wish hams were on the cutting edge, technically. As a rule (and there are notable exceptions, of course) we aren't.

73,
Caity
KU4QD

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 21:23:44 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: "Jim Campbell" <jim-c@nc.rr.com>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116799] cathode keying voltage of typical Novice rig
Message-ID: <06ef01c19406\$0cdbca90\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

Hey Jim,
Take my word for it, it is enough to HURT if it shocks you! Been there,
done that.

You would likely get across the J38 in those days while sweating out a
Novice contact and your skin resistance would be WAY down from 4 meg ohms!

Mine was the DX 20 at 50 watts using 500 volts at the plate of final. Of
course, less at the cathode by drop across the cathode resistor.

72,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 22:42:57 -0500
From: hamjoel@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116800] cathode keying
Message-ID: <20020102.224258.-32539.1.hamjoel@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

well ah guess ah lucked out..

ah had a dx60 way back when ah was a novice, conditional, general
and it used grid block keying or sumthin fancy like that and one nite I
had no key... so ah puts one wire in one hand and one wire in the utter
and commenced to banging them together....

worked all night... a father and son.... one went to bed at the
utter came home from work and we talked till the sun came up...
literally...nuttin fancy about 13 wpm ah guess... however it made an
impression on me... left wire marks on my fingers for a few days....

Course I won't mention the times ah got kicked on mah tush gotten
across someone's code key...or the time ah foolishly got my hand across
the bleeder resistor on a 1kv pwr supply (800v loaded)... My hand was

kicking around and I couldn't use the utter to do anything with out
risking shoctacution... so my hand bounced a few times and finally got it
out with only a coupla burn marks where the current went in and came
out... sure smelt bad...what a hobby... and usually it takes a few years
for serious things to become funny "incidents"... give me transistors,
voltage be lower... pain be less...

ke1la joel
in maine
shocked at the cold weather....

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Date: Wed, 02 Jan 2002 23:39:39 -0500
From: Chuck Ludinsky <cjl@mitre.org>
To: neqrp@jonal.net, qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116801] NEQRP CW Net, 3 January 2002, 8:30 PM EST, 3.565MHz
Message-ID: <3C33E08B.92F646AD@mitre.org>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

The New England QRP Club's WQ1RP CW net meets again Thursday night, 3
January 2002, at 8:30 PM EST (0130Z, 4 January 02) on or near 3.565 MHz.
Net control operator for this week's 80M session will be Chuck, K1CL,
operating from Chelmsford, MA.

Hope you all can QNI for this, the first NEQRP CW net of 2002.

Happy New Year to everyone, and 72 DE K1CL,

Chuck.

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 21:48:10 -0700
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116802] N2WW Fox Tomorrow Night
Message-ID: <3C33801A.5432.27874E4@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII

Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

N2WW Larry will be one of your foxes tomorrow evening. He's asked me to let you know that he'll be listening UP from 7.042 or thereabouts. He'll work split during the pileup, so please call UP one or two KHz.

His exchange will be [your call] 559 C0 LARRY 5W [your call]

Larry usually goes pretty fast during the pileup, but will slow down as necessary later on.

Good luck! And may the Fox be with you....
With best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2002...

Marshall Emm, N1FN
Milestone Technologies, Inc.,
Oak Hills Research & Morse Express
(303) 752-3382
<http://www.mtechnologies.com>

--

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 22:54:38 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: "Jim Campbell" <jim-c@nc.rr.com>
Cc: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116803] vertical dipole answer
Message-ID: <076001c19412\$bfa1d1e0\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

Jim,
Just catching up from vacation backlog of junk mail and excessive requoted messages! :-)

But, I am a long time proponent of vertical dipoles. See the Force 12 web site for more on them.

Understand that your driven element was designed taking into account the loading effects of the associated director and reflector, and thus may not be 50 ohms at feed point by itself. Put it up six feet off ground and give it a test with an antenna analyzer!

If it is badly off 50 ohms resistive, the antenna analyzer can tell you how

much to add as a tuned component like a beta match, or hairpin across the feedpoint to bring it back on resistive 50 ohms. The main problem is how are you going to support the thinner lower end? it cannot hold up the fatter center part. Maybe put it up on a wooden mast? A quick way to use it without rematching is to just feed the center with open wire line or twin lead back to your transmatch balun and tune it.

72,

Stuart K5KVH

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 22:05:39 -0700
From: "Marshall Emm" <mgemm@mtechnologies.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116804] FOX: Second Half starts tomorrow!
Message-ID: <3C338433.32008.2887798@localhost>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Content-description: Mail message body

The first half of the Winter 2001-2002 Fox Hunt is now in the history books, and the "championship round" is about to start.

At this point ANYBODY can still earn a Puppy Dog Certificate, by working half of the Foxes. True, if they haven't worked any so far they'll have to work all 20 of the remaining ones. But if you've already picked up a few pelts you are well on the way to earning this coveted piece of paper. If you've picked up more than a few, you're in the running for the Lassie certificate, for working 3/4 of the foxes. Or maybe even the Rin Tin certificate, which goes to the few, the proud, the super hounds who collect 90% of the possible pelts.

Unlike a couple of football teams I could name, you're ALL in the playoffs!

The second half starts out with 2 excellent foxes-- VE3FAL and N2WW will be under the gun, and the fur will be flying.

For those of you who need a refresher on the Fox Hunt, you'll find the rules on the web at <http://www.cqc.org/fox> , along with the schedule and all of the results to date.

Good luck, and may the Fox be with you!

With best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2002...

Marshall Emm, N1FN
Milestone Technologies, Inc.,
Oak Hills Research & Morse Express
(303) 752-3382
<http://www.mtechnologies.com>

--

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 21:12:00 -0800
From: "Trevor Jacobs" <fxtech@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>,
"Galahad" <galahad@worldnet.att.net>
Subject: [116805] Getting Viruses from this Internet Address from QRP-L
Message-ID: <008801c19415\$2cdeaf60\$099fb2d1@tjacobs>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi Guys,

I don't know which of you is galahad@worldnet.att.net but I've gotten several e-mails with virus attachments from you (such as the e-mail that I'm forwarding) today with subject lines from QRP-L. No problems here, as I'm protected, but thought I'd forward this to the list as others may not be. If you are Galahad, then you need to inoculate your system as you have no less than 3 viruses running through it. Sorry if this is a bit OT, but since it involves the list I thought I'd warn everyone in case you get one of these e-mails. Galahad (who ever that is) probably doesn't know that he has a (several actually) virus. It appears to be taking his received e-mail and replying to it with a virus attachment. Take care...

72/73's

Trev

KG6CYN

----- Original Message -----

From: Galahad <galahad@worldnet.att.net>
To: <fxtech@earthlink.net>
Sent: Wednesday, January 02, 2002 7:38 PM
Subject: Re: Re: 817 info...Trevor?

'Trevor Jacobs' wrote:

====

- Hi Tom and all,

-

- Yes, but I'm at work right now and don't have the board in front of me. From what I remember, it's located right next to the crystal. I'll send you better details when I get home. If you do a search of the FT-817 group at yahoo, I posted it in great detail a few months ago. When I get home, I'll forward that e-mail to you and anyone else that may need it. Keep in mind, that if you replace the local oscillator board with the TCXO board, then this is no lon ...'

> Take a look to the attachment.

Date: Wed, 02 Jan 2002 21:33:38 -0800

From: "K7FD N7SG" <k7fd@hotmail.com>

To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU

Cc: elecraft@mailman.qth.net

Subject: [116806] Website Revamp

Message-ID: <F244fkILNh19r4HyYsc00010a90@hotmail.com>

Mime-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

During the Christmas break, Annette and I took time out to network our house w/ a new cablemodem, router, print server, etc. This is a story all by itself but suffice to say wrestling with Win98SE, XP, and 2000Pro infested pc's all at once is a very special treat :(

In addtion, we freshened up our website...with the hope of adding new qrp adventures this spring, including a few projects we're working on but haven't yet photographed.

73 John K7FD

88 Annette N7SG

<http://www.hamhobby.com>

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Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 00:56:10 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116807] Re: First Year Licensed
Message-ID: <20020103003810.G36122-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

It is curious that someone could not recall the first year that they were licensed. I could never remember the date, But I can easily recall the Place and the Year. "On Top of Old Hebo" (Not HOBO :^} A little relatively unknown Mountain? on the Oregon Coast circa 1962 U.S.A.F. (AACS/AFCS) Lot's of Radios, Not many QRP :^) Mostly 100 Watt to 10 KW.

The low power rig was Something Called a "Black Widow" [6 Mtr. A.M.] it belonged to my pal Bob, K9UM0. I have searched high and low for Pictures, Schematic, Advertisements for it, to no avail. Anyone else heard of it?

Yes, one of the best places to check for info on Older Licenses is QCWA.

Somewhere in my library I have a stack of old Flying Wing Callbooks.

I still keep an eye out for them and Old Handbooks. The trouble is that now days they are very expensive to acquire. My Oldest Handbook is 1942, the year that I was born. I also have most QST's from 50's to date.

Some times I just spend a few hours sitting on the basement floor browsing thru a box of oldies. It tends to bring back the memories of "Starpower" and other Electrifying Experiences from my youth. Them old T.V.'s of the 50's had some mighty big Power Transformers. I particularly remember one with 800-0-800 VAC Secondary. Don't recall much about the T.V., but I'll never forget the Transformer. :^} I also remember the "Metal Folding Chair" in the shop. That was the early morning lesson on how not to hold a test probe. :^}

I always wondered if that might have caused the learning impairment for morse code. :^}

That is yet another story..

Sir George, The First :^}

72 ES

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net
Former QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.
Gingell & Company, Ltd. Small Business Telephone Systems
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Collector of Quartz Crystals and Telegraph Keys.

"72" = "Wishing You Good QRP" (C) 1991 Oleg Borodin, RV3GM

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 00:58:49 EST
From: IamSF5@aol.com
To: rohre@arlut.utexas.edu, qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116808] Re: vertical dipole answer
Message-ID: <15f.68b6c22.29654d19@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In a message dated 1/2/02 11:57:23 PM Eastern Standard Time,
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu writes:

<<
But, I am a long time proponent of vertical dipoles. See the Force 12 web
site for more on them.

>>
WHAT IS THE URL????
Bob
WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 01:12:23 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: Zack Lau <zlau@arrl.org>
Subject: [116809] Re: Real QRPer?
Message-ID: <20020103010021.X36122-100000@u1.abs.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Zack,

Let me say here and now that you are definately a 'REAL QRPer' in any sense of the word. The fact that you use more power on occasion for a specific purpose does not in any way negate the fact that you are a true QRPer. IMHO.

I was a 5 Watter or Less back when QRP ARCI was a 100 Watt (QRP?) Club.

They made you feel like you were a "Sinner" if you had ever operated over 100 Watts. (I confess, I once operated 10 KW, but only briefly, and in the Line of Duty.) I also put out 100 Watts on 220 Band for a Short QSO to Portland once.

As penance, I have not operated at more than 5 Watts since Joining QRP ARCI back in 1978. In fact most of my operatiing since then has been at 2 Watts or Less. Mostly 1 Watt. Even for QRP Nets, (Over 1500 QRP Net QNI's).

Even with all of that, I still do not have that Coveted "QRP Master # ?" on my Signature line.. Maybe one day I will finish getting all those QSL's.

As for the QRP WMA Award, I don't have a clue how many I have worked over the years. I remember working # 11 Luke and a few other O.T.'s.

Maybe some day I can recover the data on that old Hard Drive and Get back on the trail.

OBTW, Doug is probably looking down on us right now wondering why we haven't finished what we started.. :^}

Sir George, The First :^}

72 ES

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net
Former QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.
Gingell & Company, Ltd. Small Business Telephone Systems
Commercial Locksmith Services (301) 572-6789 Office & Fax
George D. Gingell, Jr. 3052 Fairland Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904-7117
Maryland Milliwatt Club QRP Reference Library, (301) 572-6789 IQRR #1
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Collector of Quartz Crystals and Telegraph Keys.

"72" = "Wishing You Good QRP" (C) 1991 Oleg Borodin, RV3GM

Date: Wed, 2 Jan 2002 23:15:10 -0700
From: "Galahad" <galahad@worldnet.att.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: <Ballmon5@aol.com>, <blparrish@worldnet.att.net>,
<cnelson@worldnet.att.net>, "don" <scuba_don@juno.com>,
Subject: [116810] O,T, Apology for virus
Message-ID: <002701c1941e\$02269fe0\$26a7510c@cnelsons>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Sorry to all affected,

Although the wife and I refuse to open any attached files, her siblings are here from collage and are using our system to keep in touch.

I could not figure out why I was receiving emails from myself, I hardly ever talk to me! Then I recalled that on my to-do list was a note to re subscribe to the anti virus suite...

Once again I am sorry, I am a spreader and have been virus free for 10 minutes!

NO ADVENTURE WITHOUT ADVERSITY

Chad Nelson KD7FDU
Boise Id

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 06:35:38 -0000
From: "TC Dufresne" <tdufresne@neb.rr.com>
To: <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116811] 2n-40 rig question
Message-ID: <016301c19420\$dba3e460\$89b41c41@neb.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Group:

I notice that occasionally. my rig will "drop out", ie, my audio will go to almost nil, then I'll touch a wire, or push the vernier dial, and it will come back. I know what you are thinking, a loose wire or something, but I can touch the rig almost anywhere and it will come back. Almost like the difference between the 10dB and 20 dB amp switch going on/off.

Other than this minor (I hope solvable glitch-help!) this is absolutely my number one rig right now. I am really enjoying it so much.

Also working on some bugs in my new SW+20, but that is another story.....

Thanks for any and all suggestions to lick this..

Tomn

KC0GXX

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 01:40:15 -0500 (EST)
From: George Gingell <k3tks@u1.abs.net>
To: QRP List <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: Steve Weber <kd1jv@ncia.net>
Subject: [116812] Re: SMT Practice Kit
Message-ID: <20020103012702.I37019-100000@u1.abs.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Hi Steve,

Please add me to the list of those who are interested in the keyer kit.

I might remind all that the "Original QRP SMT Practice Kit" came from "Blue Rose Electronics" (UK).

I have a couple of them in my SMT Kit & Project box, (Hidden somewhere in the Library).

Also FYI, The January 2002 issue of "73 Amateur Radio Today" Page 55, has an article on building a 556 Timer Keyer. Article by Craig Kendrick Sellen, NO Callsign Given. If I could find my SSD book, iwould make a comparison of it and the W7ZOI Keyer.

It does not offer a pcb. That is too bad, I would have liked to see it in SMT also.

Hey, I have an idea. Why not have them both made on the same pcb and cut apart after construction. ?

YAK (Yet Another Keyer or Yet Another Project) for Those Mint Boxes?

I had some real nice half size ones with Chocolate Candies in them. I had to give them to the Grandchildren for Christmas. (Hoping that they might want to let GrandPa have them back when empty :^}

Sir George, The First :^}

72 ES

QRP DX TU (C) 1986, G. "Danny" Gingell, K3TKS@ abs.net
Former QRP A.R.C.I. Net Manager and Board of Director Member.
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Collector of Quartz Crystals and Telegraph Keys.

"72" = "Wishing You Good QRP" (C) 1991 Oleg Borodin, RV3GM

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 08:29:13 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: hamjoel@juno.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116813] Re: cathode keying
Message-ID: <3C345CA9.458199E@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Lots of guys used to use two wires until they could buy a key. If you were just setting up a station and hadn't gotten around to buying a key yet, what else could you do except stay off the air, and that didn't seem like a sensible idea! Of course lots of guys also got knocked on their tushes too! Keys made it a little safer, but not perfect until we got solid state rigs!

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 08:46:43 -0500
From: "Lau, Zack, W1VT" <zlau@arrl.org>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116814] An Extra Challenge?
Message-ID: <125490A005E3D3118C9C00805FC743CC027E313D@KAHLESS>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"

How about tutoring someone to understand all the
extra class theory, so they get a perfect score on
the test?

I know it happened in 2001--why not this year?

Zack Lau W1VT

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 08:51:23 -0500
From: k8ff@juno.com
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116815] Re: vertical dipole answer
Message-ID: <20020103.085150.-988923.0.k8ff@juno.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I agree! I am currently using a Force 12 Sigma vertical with GREAT
success. Comparing to to former 40 meter antennas which include: KLM
rotary dipole at 70 feet, full size quad loop and various other
verticals. The Sigma is quiet and is as good or better than the
aforementioned antennas. It has a very small footprint and can easily be
hidden in trees. Best of all it is XYL approved, after my installation I
had to point it out to the XYL!

I have no interest in Force 12, just feel that they have a winner.

73, Wayne K8FF

On Wed, 2 Jan 2002 22:54:38 -0600 "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
writes:
> Jim,
> Just catching up from vacation backlog of junk mail and excessive

> requoted
> messages! :-)
>
> But, I am a long time proponent of vertical dipoles. See the Force
> 12 web
> site for more on them.
>
> Understand that your driven element was designed taking into account
> the
> loading effects of the associated director and reflector, and thus
> may not
> be 50 ohms at feed point by itself. Put it up six feet off ground
> and give
> it a test with an antenna analyzer!
>
> If it is badly off 50 ohms resistive, the antenna analyzer can tell
> you how
> much to add as a tuned component like a beta match, or hairpin
> across the
> feedpoint to bring it back on resistive 50 ohms. The main problem
> is how
> are you going to support the thinner lower end? it cannot hold up
> the
> fatter center part. Maybe put it up on a wooden mast? A quick way
> to use
> it without rematching is to just feed the center with open wire line
> or twin
> lead back to your transmatch balun and tune it.
> 72,
> Stuart K5KVH
>
>

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<http://dl.www.juno.com/get/web/>.

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 08:50:09 -0500

From: "Steve Lawrence" <Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM>

To: IamSF5@aol.com

Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU

Subject: [116816] Re: vertical dipole answer

Message-ID: <OFCFDC5822.15543C15-ON85256B36.004BEB69@troy.pmifeg>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Force 12 antennas may be found at:
<http://www.force12inc.com/>

73,
Steve
aa8af

IamSF5@aol.com
Sent by: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
01/03/2002 12:58 AM
Please respond to IamSF5

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
cc:
Subject: Re: vertical dipole answer

In a message dated 1/2/02 11:57:23 PM Eastern Standard Time,
rohre@arlut.utexas.edu writes:

<<
But, I am a long time proponent of vertical dipoles. See the Force 12
web
site for more on them.
>>
WHAT IS THE URL????
Bob
WA2HOQrp <tm>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 09:04:27 -0500
From: "Jim Stamper" <jstamper@shentel.net>
To: <tdufresne@neb.rr.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116817] Re: 2n-40 rig question
Message-ID: <003801c1945f\$8f596910\$6b546fcc@jim>
MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tom,

Had similar problem(s) when I first fired up SW-20+. Discovered two problems (only if you got the enclosure kit):

- 1) Check the lugs on the key jack and other connectors on the back of the enclosure. I had one barely touching the can on one of the IF transformers. Least movement would make strange things happen.
- 2) The power plug supplied with the enclosure kit was intermittent--at least the way I had it soldered up. Got a new one from RS which works OK.
- 3) When I turn the drive up past about 2 watts output I believe the rig is going into self oscillation. The side tone drops in pitch and becomes somewhat raspy. Have not yet had time to troubleshoot this--just kept the drive down.

jim-
KG4LDY
James H. Stamper
519 Park Avenue
Woodstock, VA 22664-1260
540-459-8350

----- Original Message -----

From: "TC Dufresne" <tdufresne@neb.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 1:35 AM
Subject: 2n-40 rig question

- > Group:
- > I notice that occasionally. my rig will "drop out", ie, my audio will go to
- > almost nil, then I'll touch a wire, or push the vernier dial, and it will
- > come back. I know what you are thinking, a loose wire or something, but I
- > can touch the rig almost anywhere and it will come back. Almost like the
- > difference between the 10dB and 20 dB amp switch going on/off.
- >
- > Other than this minor (I hope solvable glitch-help!) this is absolutely my
- > number one rig right now. I am really enjoying it so much.
- >
- > Also working on some bugs in my new SW+20, but that is another story.....
- >
- > Thanks for any and all suggestions to lick this..

> Tomn
> KC0GXX
>

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 09:04:27 -0500
From: Kenneth Hoglund <hoglund@wfu.edu>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116818] [OT]Coax Supplier
Message-ID: <3C3464EB.9BDDD1CF@wfu.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang--

Always happy to pass along a good vendor.

For the basement shack decided on RG-213 mil spec. Found that Davis RF had an excellent price. Called them to order 75 feet and was told they do not accept cards or Paypal--just your callsign and they'll bill you! Pay when the order arrives. Shipped the next working day, arrived here yesterday and looks grand. Doesn't get any better than that!

Now with a major "snow event" here, and freezing temps up in the attic, you know this will be a good antler once I get the coax fed down to the basement.

73

Ken KG4FGC "no connection to Davis RF; just a satisfied customer; ymmv"

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 09:16:00 -0600
From: Glen Reid <k5fx@arrl.net>
To: "AQR@yahoogroups.com" <AQR@yahoogroups.com>, QRP-1 Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116819] Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <3C3475B0.7AEE45E2@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

As the palatial K5FX hamshack/office, at the Noisy R ranch, bird sanctuary, wildflower preserve and antenna farm, nears completion, I

have arrived at a dilemma. The question is "What to use for the top of the work/repair bench?"

I have used carpet in the past but am now concerned about ESD potential (pun absolutely intended) for the common carpet materials.

I considered one of those spiffy "anti static" mats, but have been unable to find one I want to afford.

Any suggestions from the collective wisdom out there?

Thanks.

gr

--

GLEN (Just call me "BUCK") REID
K5FX
Austin, Texas

The difference between stupidity and genius is that...
genius has its limits.

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 11:16:26 -0500
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116820] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <008601c19471\$febd03e0\$6401a8c0@cox.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Maybe I've been super-lucky, but I can't recall a single ESD problem in the past 20 years with my carpet covered bench. Now I have had some problems with those new-fangled, tiny components jumping out of their bags and hiding in the carpet...

73 de Lee
km4yy

You do not examine legislation in the light of the benefits it will convey if properly administered, but in the light of the wrongs it would do and the harms it would cause if improperly administered.
-- Lyndon Johnson

----- Original Message -----

From: "Glen Reid" <k5fx@arrl.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 10:16 AM

Subject: Workbench Top Recommendations?

> As the palatial K5FX hamshack/office, at the Noisy R ranch, bird
> sanctuary, wildflower preserve and antenna farm, nears completion, I
> have arrived at a dilemma. The question is "What to use for the top of
> the work/repair bench?"

>

> I have used carpet in the past but am now concerned about ESD potential
> (pun absolutely intended) for the common carpet materials.

>

> I considered one of those spiffy "anti static" mats, but have been
> unable to find one I want to afford.

>

> Any suggestions from the collective wisdom out there?

>

> Thanks.

>

> gr

> --

> GLEN (Just call me "BUCK") REID

> K5FX

> Austin, Texas

>

>

> The difference between stupidity and genius is that...

> genius has its limits.

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 11:25:21 -0500

From: Tim O'Rourke <TORourke@KaiserFT.com>

To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [116821] Help with RF Choke

Message-ID: <0514B74864ACD511934400508BBB5E3401E1DE@EMAIL1>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain;

charset="iso-8859-1"

Need help with finding replacement for FCZ 1R9. I do not have value only
part number.

72 Tim O'Rourke KG4CHX

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 11:33:16 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: k5fx@arrl.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116822] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <3C3487CC.CD7040D3@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Glen,

Build it so you can easily replace the work surface. Start with a plywood or pressed wood sub top. Cover this with a sheet of linoleum. Put your anti-static mat, if you have one, over this. You will often find your soldering iron has not hit the holder and burned the top, or your drill has slipped! If you build it with a replaceable top, you will not worry about appearance in the future. This was an industry standard approach.

73

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 17:43:06 +0100
From: "Ingo, DK3RED" <dk3red@t-online.de>
To: QRP-L <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116823] Re: Help with RF Choke
Message-ID: <3C348A1A.48F4DB01@t-online.de>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hello Tim,

> Need help with finding replacement for FCZ 1R9. I do not have value only
> part number.

Possible that 1R9 is the value (1.9mH) but this is no standard value.

What sort of choke is it?

shielded ?

air ?
soleniodal ?
like a TOKO ?

Can you upload a small picture on your homepage?

--
72/73 de Ingo, DK3RED (Don't forget: the fun is the power !)
dk3red@t-online.de - www.qsl.net/dk3red - www.t-online.de/~dk3red

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 11:02:25 -0600
From: Bob Liesenfeld <wb0poq@visi.com>
To: TORourke@KaiserFT.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116824] Re: Help with RF Choke
Message-ID: <3C348EA1.4D259B13@visi.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Tim ORourke wrote:

>
> Need help with finding replacement for FCZ 1R9. I do not have value only
> part number.
> 72 Tim O'Rourke KG4CHX

Hmmmmmm....more information please. What is it out of? Size, shape?
A guess would be that it is a 1.9uH or maybe a 1nH, but those are just
guesses.

72 Bob WB0POQ

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 11:13:56 -0600 (CST)
From: Bruce Rattray <rattray@gpfn.sk.ca>
To: VE3JC - John C <jbcumming@wwdc.com>
Cc: QRP-Canada <qrp-canada@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>,
Low Power Group <qrp-l@LeHigh.EDU>
Subject: [116825] Re: Canaday logging program
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0201031107420.3593-1000000@neale.gpfn.sk.ca>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Tue, 1 Jan 2002, VE3JC - John C wrote:

> The other very minor problem was when I worked a Newfoundland "special
> call" XJ1TK - I couldn't
> figure out how to get it entered for Nfld. It was no problem, as I just
> put in the "normal" prefix, and edited the file afterward. But just to
> "flag" you of the glitch.
>

....this is information to all who used the "Canada" logging program for
the RAC Winter contest...the program ran the smoothest it has ever run and
so far only 1 hitch has been reported (read above)....I did a dummy run
this morning and confirmed the "Newfoundland Special Call" problem....so
my son & I will be getting together to see if we can eliminate this
bug....72 - Bruce (VE5RC+VE5QRP)

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 17:24:59
From: "Brad Hernlem" <alihernlem@hotmail.com>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Cc: w6toy@erols.com
Subject: [116826] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <F231gX3gM6hD7Is9wCS00016bfb@hotmail.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed

My "bench" is a glued up pine panel resting on two short file cabinets (with
rubber "feet" in between). For drilling, I use a sheet of rubber gasket
material to back up the board, keep it from spinning and to catch the drills
when they emerge from the other side before they can do any damage to bench
(I use a hand operated drill, BTW ... Miller's Falls).

Brad

Bruce Muscolino (w6toy@erols.com) writes:

>Glen,

>Build it so you can easily replace the work surface. Start with a
>plywood or pressed wood sub top. Cover this with a sheet of linoleum. Put
>your anti-static mat, if you have one, over this. You will often
>find your soldering iron has not hit the holder and burned the top, or
>your drill has slipped! If you build it with a replaceable top, you
>will not worry about appearance in the future. This was an industry
>standard approach.

>73

Send and receive Hotmail on your mobile device: <http://mobile.msn.com>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 09:29:53 -0800 (PST)
From: R Ramirez <kb2ypx@yahoo.com>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [116827] Re: RICE vs. CONUS RADIOS
Message-ID: <20020103172953.22327.qmail@web10606.mail.yahoo.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

> What American manufacturer makes a reliable HT or other amateur
> equipment
> without subletting any assembly or parts acquisition to the Pacific
> Rim or
> beyond State borders?
>
> *All parts and assembly must be acquired / done within CONUS and by
> American
> Nationals, not transient labor. Nothing allowed from P.R., Mexico,
> Canada,
> Philippines or other sources. 73, Ron, W2WU

Ron-

Hmmm. Let's see. The people of Puerto Rico ARE United States citizens just like you. Why do you disqualify anything made in PR from your little scavenger hunt for "American" made radios??

BTW, the MAORITY of the prescription/OTC drugs that you take are manufactured in PR.... (along with countelss other products)

just my \$0.02

Ricardo
kb2ypx

Do You Yahoo!?
Send your FREE holiday greetings online!
<http://greetings.yahoo.com>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 12:37:53 -0800
From: "w2wurjj" <w2wurjj@verizon.net>
To: <lmairs@cox.rr.com>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116828] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <005001c19496\$89345cc0\$71c2fea9@w2wu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

IBM (defense division) used floor mats & wrist bracelets grounded to metal tables. They may have had special floor tile, but that wasn't my responsibility. The elite had anti static benchtops, but they didn't cover the entire bench.

----- Original Message -----
From: Lee Mairs <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 08:16
Subject: Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?

> Maybe I've been super-lucky, but I can't recall a single ESD problem in
> the
> past 20 years with my carpet covered bench. Now I have had some problems
> with those new-fangled, tiny components jumping out of their bags and
> hiding
> in the carpet...
> 73 de Lee
> km4yy
>
> You do not examine legislation in the light of the benefits it will convey
> if
> properly administered, but in the light of the wrongs it would do and the
> harms
> it would cause if improperly administered.
> -- Lyndon Johnson
>

> ----- Original Message -----
> From: "Glen Reid" <k5fx@arrl.net>
> To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
> Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 10:16 AM
> Subject: Workbench Top Recommendations?
>
>
> > As the palatial K5FX hamshack/office, at the Noisy R ranch, bird
> > sanctuary, wildflower preserve and antenna farm, nears completion, I
> > have arrived at a dilemma. The question is "What to use for the top of
> > the work/repair bench?"
> >
> > I have used carpet in the past but am now concerned about ESD potential
> > (pun absolutely intended) for the common carpet materials.
> >
> > I considered one of those spiffy "anti static" mats, but have been
> > unable to find one I want to afford.
> >
> > Any suggestions from the collective wisdom out there?
> >
> > Thanks.
> >
> > gr
> > --
> > GLEN (Just call me "BUCK") REID
> > K5FX
> > Austin, Texas
> >
> >
> > The difference between stupidity and genius is that...
> > genius has its limits.
>
>

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 12:57:41 -0500
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116829] SMT practice kit
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20020103125741.007aba20@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Wow, now we're cooking with gas!

I haven't counted them all yet, but looks like we're starting to get up to enough orders to justify a nice solder masked, component screened board for this project. I need to order 100 boards to get good ones, so the closer we can get to 100, the fewer boards I need to eat, and the better the chance of breaking even on this venture.

I'll try to get back to everyone to confirm your order and answer any questions you might have asked. Thanks!

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountians of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 12:27:37 -0500
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: tdufresne@neb.rr.com
Cc: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116830] Re: 2n-40 rig question
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20020103122737.007a4e80@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>I notice that occasionally. my rig will "drop out", ie, my audio will go to
>almost nil, then I'll touch a wire, or push the vernier dial, and it will
>come back. I know what you are thinking, a loose wire or something, but I

Thomn,
I would suspect something is breaking into oscillation. Most likely the IF
amp, as it is a high gain stage, but the RF preamp and audio amp are also
possibilities. You really need a scope to track this kind of problem down,
so I hope you have one or can gain access to one for awhile. Not an easy
problem to track down or to fix, so good luck!

72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountians of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 11:03:05 -0700 (MST)

From: "Paul Harden, NA5N" <na5n@rt66.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116831] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <Pine.SUN.4.10.10201030955100.11629-100000@shell.rt66.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Thu, 3 Jan 2002, Bruce Muscolino wrote:

> Build it so you can easily replace the work surface. Start with a
> plywood or pressed wood sub top. Cover this with a sheet of linoleum.

Why? I have the same workbench at home I've had for 25 years, and the same workbench at work for the same length. No need yet to replace the surface.

At home, my electronic work bench is simply made from a 2.5ft x 6.5ft standard wooden door, like used for an internal closet door. 4 angle brackets, four 2x4's for legs and a dozen or so wood screws ... walla ... work bench. Some parts cabinets along the back, bench vise here, soldering iron there. Sure, it has little holes drilled through it from making enclosures, burned marks from the soldering iron, stains from a few spilled cups of coffee, that squashed cockroach I think is still under the scope, etc. But that's only noticeable when I get around to cleaning off the bench :-). Normally those blemishes are covered with the projects on the bench and a layer of resistors and caps everywhere. (Photo's upon request!). And thank goodness I never put a linoleum top on it. Why would one do that? That's asking for ESD problems, a lot of work and expense for nothing, and I'd much rather smell the wood top burning from a loose soldering iron than burning linoleum. I might confuse it with merely blowing another IRF510 PA :-)

And speaking of ESD ... has anyone out there REALLY blown up a chip or transistor by merely handling it? The only FET's and transistors I have destroyed are from accidentally running 8 amps through them. I just don't see the justification for the expense of an ESD mat for amateur work, unless you get one for free. And even there, you'd have to clean off your entire workbench to lay it down. That's a scary thought and 2-3 days work for some of us-hi. ESD destruction of parts just is not a serious amateur problem. There have been thousands of K2's, K1's, SW-30's, TT2's, SMK-1's, NC-40's, etc. successfully built over the years. How many that didn't work were the result of blowing a part by static discharge (ESD)? I have seen FAR MORE part failures due to premature failure (dead, right out of the bag) rather than ESD.

> You will often
> find your soldering iron has not hit the holder and burned the top, or

> your drill has slipped!

This is what gives your workbench "character" !

> If you build it with a replaceable top, you
> will not worry about appearance in the future. This was an industry
> standard approach.

The appearance of one's workbench has nothing to do with the work that comes off of it. "It's a poor craftsman who blames his tools." If you want a workbench that's for looks only, fine - gold plate it. If you want a workbench to say build something on it, then who cares what it looks like? As long as it's functional. The xyl will notify you when it exceeds the tolerance level of human usage :-)

I just don't like some of these posts that implies you have to spend a bunch of money and time to build some elaborate workbench in order to build something, or you have to buy this Japanese rig over that rig to have a successful QSO, or your antenna has to be matched to 1:1.000000000 SWR, or your code speed has to be at least 25wpm or you need to be licensed before WW2 to be a real ham, etc. ... to be successful in this hobby. I think it is discouraging a lot of newer hams to this group into thinking piddling with QRP gear and making a few QSO's is some elaborate business. We're not concerned here with industry standards ... but with ham standards, which is basically to have fun with this hobby.

To me, a REAL HAM is the guy who actually makes a QSO once in awhile. If you haven't squirted some RF into the spectrum in the past few months, then what's the point of carrying that piece of paper from the FCC in your wallet? To me, the no-code tech who just upgraded to general and had his first ever 8 wpm QSO with a 2:1 SWR antenna and a non-superhet rig is more of a ham than the guy who got licensed the same year as Marconi, but hasn't had a QSO since the Clinton administration. Even if he did it with a Tuna Tin II, built on the ugliest work bench in town, used lead solder instead of some exotic organic crap, and even SMELLED THE FUMES!!!

So ... what does your work bench look like? How did you make it?
I bet few of you have anything exotic.

72, Paul NA5N

PS - And for the record, my last QSO was 2 nights ago, not counting SKN.

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 12:11:04 -0600
From: "George, W5YR" <w5yr@att.net>
To: na5n@rt66.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116832] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <3C349EB8.B0A1F733@att.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Old saying attributable to someone unknown to me:

"Man who have clean, neat desk have messy desk elsewhere where he gets work done."

72/73, George W5YR - the Yellow Rose of Texas QRP-L 1373 NETXQRP 6
Fairview, TX 30 mi NE of Dallas in Collin county EM13qe SOC 262 COG 8
Amateur Radio W5YR, in the 56th year and it just keeps getting better!
Icom IC-756PRO #02121 Kachina #91900556 IC-765 #02437

All incoming and outgoing email virus-checked by Norton Anti-Virus 2002

"Paul Harden, NA5N" wrote:

> The appearance of one's workbench has nothing to do with the work that
> comes off of it. "It's a poor craftsman who blames his tools." If you
> want a workbench that's for looks only, fine - gold plate it. If you
> want a workbench to say build something on it, then who cares what it
> looks like? As long as it's functional. The xyl will notify you when
> it exceeds the tolerance level of human usage :-)

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 11:13:37 -0700 (MST)
From: "Karl F. Larsen" <k5di@zianet.com>
To: Caitlyn Martin <ku4qd@qsl.net>
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116833] Re: Japanese Supremacy (a myth)
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.33.0201031055380.2602-100000@Daisy.dog>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

The title of this message is, like most of Bruce's messages stupid. Supremacy in what? Talking about today Japan is having serious money problems and the Gross National Product is down like 20%. They did loose the last big war to us, and we both learned how to make cars small and good.

As for Ham radios Japanese companies market more Ham radios than any other country in the world. I own 4 or 5 of them the latest being the FT-817 from Yaesu. Stock this is a Japanese radio full of surface mount components made in 3 major countries, not Japan. The transistors were made in Japan which is odd. But for CW Fox and DX Hunting you need to buy an expensive USA product, a Collins Mechanical Filter.

If I wanted to buy a box made in the USA I would buy Ten Tec but the radio inside is made of chips from around the world. I'm impressed with the 12 KHz last IF of the Ten Tec's using DSP filters. This is a very good design that allows the user to select bandpass size from tiny like 150 Hz to 8 KHz in an infinite number of steps. You just turn the dial on the front panel either real Jupiter, or computer image.

On 2 Jan 2002, Caitlyn Martin wrote:

> As usual I completely disagree with Bruce.
> >
>
> FWIW, my next new (not used) toys are likely to be the 516 and 526.
>
> 73,
> Caity
> KU4QD
>
>
>

--

Yours Truly,

- Karl F. Larsen, k5di@arrl.net (505) 524-3303 -
<http://www.zianet.com/k5di/>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 13:24:28 -0500 (EST)

From: wb0wao@hotmail.com (Dennis Ponsness)
To: kd1jv@moose.ncia.net
Cc: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU (Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion)
Subject: [116834] Re: 2n-40 rig question
Message-ID: <28279-3C34A1DC-951@storefull-265.iap.bryant.webtv.net>
Content-Disposition: Inline
Content-Type: Text/Plain; Charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7Bit
MIME-Version: 1.0 (WebTV)

Hmm,

Ya know, my 2N2/40+ does the same thing AND both my SW-40+ and SW-30+ are now doing it too. I didn't notice it until a few days ago. Now, since all are DC RX and use the same basic mute circuit (2N7000) could something be causing the 7000 to "partially" mute? Now, I could be (and possibly am) incorrect by making this assumption. The only other thing that is common to these rigs is the keyer and the power supply. PS is an Astron 35A and the keyer is a K1EA K10 kit.

To get the signal level back up, I have been sending a "dit" with the keyer and "BAM" it comes back up full strength. So, here is a mystery - why is it doing that to ALL 3 QRP rigs, and Steve, you are well familiar with my 30m one (wink)! What say the group?

72 es oo

Dennis - WB0WAO

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 18:20:17 +0000
From: Brian Short <k7on@earthlink.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116835] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <E16MCge-0000gw-00@albatross.prod.itd.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

>So ... what does your work bench look like? How did you make it?
>I bet few of you have anything exotic.
>
>72, Paul NA5N

Since you ask, my workbench is an old piece of office furniture purchased at a Motorola Government Electronics Group surplus auction for \$5 some years ago.

Specifically, it is a long computer/printer table and has a series of

slots near the back of one side for paper or multi-part forms to feed through. Guess nobody wanted because of the slots in the surface.

Occasionally, it is inconvenient if something falls through one of the slots, but...

The price was right and it is expendable if it ever comes to that.

Mine is definitely a "working" shack... old surplus filing cabinets for parts and junk box storage, milk crates, etc.

I did once ask a similar question about building a workbench, but in a more general sense. I'm sure those comments are in the QRP-L archives. That was when I built a work table in my "shack" out in the desert. Had to build from scratch to make something fit tight space constraints. Certainly nothing exotic - plywood and 2x4s with shelf underneath. Mounted lots of electrical outlets to it.

Brian

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 12:36:58 -0600
From: <jfox6@houston.rr.com>
To: "QRP" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116836] re 2n-40 rig Question
Message-ID: <001701c19485\$a0adf200\$9902a8c0@houston.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Gang,

Funny how one can read about a problem on the list, and it happens to be the same problem I am having with another qrp rig. I have built the MFJ9340K rig. When I turned it on for the first time to align things, I heard nothing in the audio. I mean it was dead. I checked over the solder joints and possible bridges, and found nothing. Then, I accidentally hit the key, and wham! the audio was there. I turned the little beast off for about a minute, turned it back on, and nil in the audio. I keyed the transmitter, and wham! back came the audio.

I got tired of trying to troubleshoot the little smd, so I sent it back to MFJ. Haven't heard anything from them yet.

73,

Foxy
jfox6@houston.rr.com
<http://www.qsl.net/w5hir>

Date: Fri, 04 Jan 2002 02:48:50 +0800
From: "Jerry Bartachek" <leadsheet@musician.org>
To: qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [116837] FS: QRP+
Message-ID: <20020103184850.43652.qmail@mail.com>
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Disposition: inline
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
MIME-Version: 1.0

For Sale: Index Laboratories QRP Plus HF XCVR serial #1041, MFJ microphone, manual, original box and matching power cable. Condition: 9.9 out of 10. Non-smoker. Internal keyer speed is selectable in 1 wpm increments. Asking \$350, but will consider a reasonable offer.

E-Mail: leadsheet@musician.org
--

Jerry KD0CA
QRP-L #544
QRP ARCI #5166
FISTS Club #7064

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Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 13:00:01 -0600
From: "Stuart Rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
To: <AQRP@yahooogroups.com>, "QRP-1 Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>,
"Glen Reid" <k5fx@arrl.net>
Subject: [116838] Re: [AQRP] Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <008901c19488\$d8e6ec00\$4e100a0a@rohredt2000>

For Anti static treatment on regular carpet, you can buy cans of spray. The old time home method for removing static cling from your VTVM meter needle, was to spray a dilute detergent-water solution on the plastic meter face inside the meter case.

Should work temporarily on carpet. Some carpet is less static generating than others, and you could check that out.
I think they add carbon fibers to anti stat carpet to create resistance.

One could check a carpet sample square against others, with a good high range ohm meter.

Down here in Austin, you generally only have static at home in January, unless you keep your house very cold and dry at other months!

72,
Stuart K5KVH

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 14:05:31 -0500
From: "Mark S. Adams, P.E." <msadams@acsu.buffalo.edu>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116839] Lux-Log , Anyone Have it?
Message-ID: <749416760.1010066731@oes-madams.facilities.buffalo.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Disposition: inline

Hi Gang,

I want to try LX1N0's Lux-Log logging software. Unfortunately, the exe file is 10MB and exists on the worlds slowest server! I simply cannot download it, and I have a T1 connection here at work.

So, does anyone have the program file in a location that I can access? The file is 30700_setup.exe. Alternatively, I can handle it as an attachment.

Thanks,
Mark K2Q0

Mark S. Adams, P.E.
University at Buffalo
Occupational and Environmental Safety
220 Winspear Avenue
Buffalo, NY 14215-1034
Tel: 716.829.3707 ext. 25 Fax: 716.829.2704
Pager: 716.774.2260

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 14:19:42 -0500
From: "Steve Lawrence" <Steve.Lawrence@ITWFEG.COM>
To: qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU
Subject: [116840] Small Solar Panel?
Message-ID: <0F01BAF5FB.2075C0EC-ON85256B36.0069AD6A@troy.pmifeg>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

I'm looking for a small solar panel, rated at something like 15v @100 - 200ma. The end desire: charge a 12v battery pack in the 1 - 2 AH range directly without a charge controller. The idea solution would be light weight for portability, rugged, and not too expensive. Electronic Goldmine was carrying a 19 v @100ma panel which looked idea -- except they sold out quickly.

Recommendations? Sources?

73,
Steve
aa8af

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 14:35:13 -0500
From: "Ernest Rodriguez" <hitruz@hotmail.com>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116841] White Mountain serie ssb transceiver
Message-ID: <0E35zQT456UnHAaaz7E0000bae2@hotmail.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Hi,

I'm looking to buy a White Mountain serie ssb transceiver from Small Wonders lab.

Would appreciate any comments / infos / experiences with those little rigs.

"Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side, a dark side, and it holds the universe together...."

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 13:35:41 -0600
From: Boliver Allmon <Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116842] First Kit Suggestions?
Message-ID: <6436BBDD2887D411A2360000E866FEEE01F9CB1B@HOUEXCH045>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

I am wanting to build a radio. I am new to kit building, but I want to try to do it. I realize that failure may come before sucess, but never trying is failing.

Any suggestions for a first kit? Any type will be considered. I realize that "small" increases difficulty factor, but to put a radio in a small container would be interesting, but so would building a tube based radio.

Transceiver or transmitter and receiver?

Maybe a elmer here in the Houston, TX area?

Still working on the code to get my General ticket.
Tarket date to get ticket is March 1, 2002.

Thanks

> Boliver Allmon
>
>
>
> *Phone: 713-753-7667
> *Location: KT1942C
> *e-mail: Boliver.Allmon@Halliburton.com
>
>

>

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 14:36:11 -0500
From: <n7dma@mindspring.com>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116843] Re: Small solar panel
Message-ID: <Springmail.105.1010086571.0.76050600@www.springmail.com>

Steve:

I've had good luck with the small panels offered at All Electronics.

<http://www.allelectronics.com/index.html>

Also, J.C Whitney has small panels at reasonable prices.

<http://www.jcwhitney.com/catsubpic.jhtml?CATID=186344&BQ=jcw2>
(look about 2/3 of the way down the page for solar chargers).

Hope that helps!

72,

Karl
N7DMA

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 19:26:48 +0000
From: Brian Short <k7on@earthlink.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116844] Re: Small Solar Panel?
Message-ID: <E16MDj2-0005Qz-00@harrier.prod.itd.earthlink.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

If I may add to the question...

I have an "extra" small solar panel here, but I need
a simple charge controller to use with it. I intend to
connect the panel to a 12v garden tractor battery.

I did a Google search, but did not find a simple schematic.

Suggestions?

At 02:19 PM 1/3/02 -0500, you wrote:

>I'm looking for a small solar panel, rated at something like 15v @100 -
>200ma. The end desire: charge a 12v battery pack in the 1 - 2 AH range
>directly without a charge controller. The idea solution would be light
>weight for portability, rugged, and not too expensive. Electronic
>Goldmine was carrying a 19 v @100ma panel which looked idea -- except they
>sold out quickly.

>

>Recommendations? Sources?

>

>73,

>Steve

>aa8af

>

Date: Tue, 01 Jan 2002 15:54:09 -0900

From: Jim Larsen - AL7FS <AL7FS@ARRL.NET>

To: "qrp-1@lehigh.edu" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>

Subject: [116845] Re: NOT about - New Year's Resolution--No more angry posts

Message-ID: <3C325A31.4545440E@ARRL.NET>

MIME-Version: 1.0

Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii

Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I am totally confused now. What does the material below have to do with the Subject?

I think the material below is good stuff but since I have a filter on the subject, I nearly missed it. I just happened to catch it as I was cleaning out the Trash folder.

Hey, folks, feel free to make the subject give some indication of what the body of the material covers. Why, you can even change it if it is wrong. "Cute Subject lines do nothing for the good of the order" if it doesn't convey "The Subject".

Happy New Year, one and all.

73, Jim, AL7FS

tjmc wrote:

> > > How did I live without that double sided foam tape for so
> > long? Finally dis

> And
> > taping down the 9V battery with it turned out to be a bad idea. You need a
> > come-along and a crowbar to get the spent one loose. Warped my Altoids
> > box.
>
> A trick to removing double stick foam tape is a small gauge wire....I
> pull a small gauge wire under the taped object and let the wire cut
> the foam.
>
> best

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 14:45:05 -0500
From: "Randy Randall" <RANDALLR@Healthall.com>
To: <hitruz@hotmail.com>, <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116846] Re: White Mountain serie ssb transceiver
Message-ID: <sc346e7b.032@healthall.com>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable
Content-Disposition: inline

Hello. I have the White Mountian 20 meter version and I highly recommend =
this radio. Goes togeather well and works FB. Get a good speaker mike =
for it and you will be pleased.

73
Randy KB8AS0

Randy E. Randall
Network Engineer
The Health Alliance of Greater Cincinnati
Phone 513-585-7146
Fax 513-585-7159

>>> "Ernest Rodriguez" <hitruz@hotmail.com> 01/03/02 02:35PM >>>

Hi,

I'm looking to buy a White Mountain serie ssb transceiver from Small =
Wonders
lab.

Would appreciate any comments / infos / experiences with those little =

rigs.

"Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side, a dark side, and it =
holds
the universe together...."

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 14:51:53 -0500
From: "Mike Branca" <w3irz@att.net>
To: <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116847] Static damage
Message-ID: <087901c19490\$3467bda0\$d8eb5b0c@default>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Boy, I'm with Paul Harden, NA5N who says that static is not a problem. I have handled thousands of IC's. FETs computer boards and so on and have never zapped a thing. I do smoke parts regularly, however, in the process of testing but that is attributable shorted clip leads, reverse polarity and seeing what it can take.

I have never used a ground strap but I do use common sense like not having carpet in the work area and periodically touching a grounded object. I worked for AT&T on the technical side for 31+ years and almost started to believe those "ground strap fanatics" till I looked at them more closely. Every single one of them was very far down on the technical scale. So far down in fact that they had no knowledge of how to equipment they were purported to protect even worked and even less knowledge of the components mounted on the boards. Their ignorance gave them away. It looked like they could appoint themselves experts in a field where it was difficult to prove them wrong or anything for that matter.

The weather service has the same kind of folks who have invented black ice, temperature humidity index and wind chill factors. They consider themselves experts while spurting useless "facts." I drove for years on icy roads before they invented "black ice."

Mike Branca W3IRZ in Conyers Georgia

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 15:05:32 -0500
From: David Hinerman <WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net>
To: qrp-l@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116848] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <5.1.0.14.1.20020103142835.00a78ec0@ipostoffice.worldnet.att.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

At 11:03 AM 1/3/2002 -0700, you wrote:

>And speaking of ESD ... has anyone out there REALLY blown up a chip
>or transistor by merely handling it?

Paul,

Yes. I've whacked a few memory and processor chips with static over the past 20+ years. I haven't worked much with MOSFETs, so no grief there. No bipolars injured, that I'm aware of.

At work our biggest concern is latent damage. After we instituted anti-static procedures in the factory our warranty returns went down 8-12% depending on the product line. Almost all of our products went through either QA testing or calibration or both before they left the plant, so they were working when they shipped. But a little zap could weaken a part to where it would work for a time, but still fail prematurely.

At home or in the design lab I just use a grounded soldering iron and either wear a grounded wrist strap or touch a grounded structure (usually a mat, since we have them) before handling a semiconductor or an assembly. Wrist straps are nice when I've got my hands full of scope probes and such, testing a device. The occasional static zap can be a testing nuisance, causing spurious resets or interrupts (or triggering the scope when you're trying to catch that once-in-a-lifetime transient).

> The only FET's and transistors
>I have destroyed are from accidentally running 8 amps through them.

Yep, done that too. You should have seen the flames when I was testing MOVs.

>To me, a REAL HAM is the guy who actually makes a QSO once in awhile.
>If you haven't squirted some RF into the spectrum in the past few
>months, then what's the point of carrying that piece of paper from
>the FCC in your wallet? To me, the no-code tech who just upgraded to
>general and had his first ever 8 wpm QSO with a 2:1 SWR antenna and a
>non-superhet rig is more of a ham than the guy who got licensed the
>same year as Marconi, but hasn't had a QSO since the Clinton
>administration.

Are you talkin' to me?

I haven't had an HF QSO since the first Bush administration. I build or repair gear with flint knives and bear skins, get it working, and give it away. Am I not a real ham?

> Even if he did it with a Tuna Tin II, built on the
> ugliest work bench in town, used lead solder instead of some exotic
> organic crap, and even SMELLED THE FUMES!!!

You've seen me work then. (Grin) But I try to not inhale.

> So ... what does your work bench look like? How did you make it?
> I bet few of you have anything exotic.

My home work bench is a particle-board computer desk in the living room. At work we have some nice wood-topped benches that I use when I can. (That's why I mentioned the butcher-block top previously. The fellow asked for opinions. I wasn't trying to imply he could use nothing less.)

> PS - And for the record, my last QSO was 2 nights ago, not counting
> SKN.

Mine was in 1990, on 80M CW. A VE3 that had the dot speed on his bug set WAY too fast for the 6 or 7 WPM we were doing.

Dave

Dave Hinerman
WD8CIV@worldnet.att.net

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 15:15:37 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: w3irz@att.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116849] Re: Static damage
Message-ID: <3C34BBE9.4FD0AEA9@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Well Mike, you're either incredibly lucky or your company does not have to meet military standards in what ever they do! While it is true that few chips are damaged by static these days, most of them have built in

protection diodes, they can still be damaged and may fail at the most inopportune moment!

The company I worked for made auto pilots for military and commercial jets. We used anti static as a matter of course starting in the 60's, with the Lockheed L-1011. We never had a static related failure! Older devices were more prone to this sort of destruction. Just because it has never happened to you does not mean it won't!

73

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 15:20:20 -0500
From: "Ed Tanton" <n4xy@att.net>
To: <w3irz@att.net>,
 "'Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion'" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116850] RE: Static damage... Yes BUT...
Message-ID: <000501c19494\$11a9b5d0\$4eec5b0c@n4xy>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="us-ascii"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

One of the more insidious facets of static damage is that it does not always occur immediately. I have seen electron microscope images supporting this statement. PARTIAL blowouts may occur, reducing the effective width of integrated circuit 'traces'. This causes eventual failure as the 'trace' overheats.

OTH, I completely agree with you Mike about common sense handling of CMOS. I treat all sensitive components like there was 'phlogiston' on me-and as anyone knows, getting a good grip on something grounded always drains the 'phlogiston' effectively. Transferring components requires keeping the 'phlogiston' (it's as good a 'name' as any) from entering the transferred component via either the transferee, or the destination-so I always make sure all three of us are at the SAME 'phlogiston' level.

I THINK those wrist cords can effectively transfer 'phlogiston', and own both a static mat, AND a so-far-unused wrist cord (they do say "confession is good for the soul" right?) As for CMOS failures around here, the score is: once a possible short-term; and once a double long-term (also "possible").

The only CMOS rules I have are: 1) the above-mentioned surface-charge ("phlogiston") transfer thing; and 2) Common Sense RULES!

73 Ed Tanton N4XY <n4xy@arrl.net>

Ed Tanton N4XY
189 Pioneer Trail
Marietta, GA 30068-3466

website: <http://www.n4xy.com>

All emails <IN> & <OUT> checked by
Norton AntiVirus with AutoProtect

LM: ARRL QCWA AMSAT & INDEXA;
SEDXC NCDXA GACW QRP-ARCI
OK-QRP QRP-L #758 K2 (FT) #00057

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 15:22:56 -0500 (EST)
From: Chris Cartwright <ccart@phideaux.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116851] Re: Small Solar Panel?
Message-ID: <Pine.LNX.4.21.0201031517510.25078-100000@dns.phideaux.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

On Thu, 3 Jan 2002, Steve Lawrence wrote:

> I'm looking for a small solar panel, rated at something like 15v @100 -
> 200ma. The end desire: charge a 12v battery pack in the 1 - 2 AH range

I've had good luck finding 12V "goodies" at <http://www.boatus.com> just ask
the field day crew about the 12V coffee maker! BoatUS has a small 1.8W
panel (#220380) for \$32, and I have their 5W panel (#220381), been very
happy with it, and it's nearly indestructable. Much less fragile than my
higher wattage glass panels.

-- Chris Cartwright, Unix Administrator | ccart@phideaux.com --
-- N3XRV ARRL-VE Norcal Zombie #163 | Oxford, PA 19363 FM29as --
-- MDmW #5 NJ-QRP #105 QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 FISTS #5028 QRP-ARCI #9271 --

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 15:27:27 -0500
From: W2AGN <w2agn@pobox.com>
To: Chris Cartwright <ccart@phideaux.com>,

"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116852] Re: Small Solar Panel?
Message-ID: <0201031527270F.02371@CC2289974-A>
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit

On Thursday 03 January 2002 15:22, Chris Cartwright wrote:

> On Thu, 3 Jan 2002, Steve Lawrence wrote:
> > I'm looking for a small solar panel, rated at something like 15v @100 -
> > 200ma. The end desire: charge a 12v battery pack in the 1 - 2 AH range
>
> I've had good luck finding 12V "goodies" at <http://www.boatus.com> just ask
> the field day crew about the 12V coffee maker! BoatUS has a small 1.8W
> panel (#220380) for \$32, and I have their 5W panel (#220381), been very
> happy with it, and it's nearly indestructable. Much less fragile than my
> higher wattage glass panels.
>
> -- Chris Cartwright, Unix Administrator | ccart@phideaux.com
> -- -- N3XRV ARRL-VE Norcal Zombie #163 | Oxford, PA 19363 FM29as
> -- -- MDmW #5 NJ-QRP #105 QRP-L #655 NORCAL #1891 FISTS #5028 QRP-ARCI
> #9271 --

--

Also, check out <http://www.electronicsgoldmine.com>

I got a small panel there for \$29.00. Just right for keeping a 7 MaH Gelcell topped off.

John L Sielke W2AGN
w2agn@pobox.com
<http://www.qsl.net/w2agn>
Trustee: W3IYQ

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 15:52:50 -0500
From: Russ Hines <wb8zcc@one.net>
To: na5n@rt66.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116853] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <3C34C4A2.C6292D5A@one.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In 1987, I built my own workbench because I could never find exactly what I wanted at a price that was reasonable.

Top is a 2x4 wood frame covered in 3/4" plywood approx. 32" deep by 80" long and 31" off the floor supported by home-made cabinets at the ends. It's glued and screwed and painted black. And hefty enough to bounce the occasional kilowatt amplifier off it. ;-)

It'll probably outlive me.

73,
Russ Hines
WB8ZCC

"Paul Harden, NA5N" wrote:

>
> On Thu, 3 Jan 2002, Bruce Muscolino wrote:
> > Build it so you can easily replace the work surface. Start with a
> > plywood or pressed wood sub top. Cover this with a sheet of linoleum.
>
> Why? I have the same workbench at home I've had for 25 years, and
> the same workbench at work for the same length. No need yet to
> replace the surface.
>
> At home, my electronic work bench is simply made from a 2.5ft x 6.5ft
> standard wooden door, like used for an internal closet door. 4 angle
> brackets, four 2x4's for legs and a dozen or so wood screws ... walla ...
> work bench. Some parts cabinets along the back, bench vise here,
> soldering iron there. Sure, it has little holes drilled through it
> from making enclosures, burned marks from the soldering iron, stains
> from a few spilled cups of coffee, that squashed cockroach I think is
> still under the scope, etc. But that's only noticeable when I get
> around to cleaning off the bench :-). Normally those blemishes are covered
> with the projects on the bench and a layer of resistors and caps
> everywhere. (Photo's upon request!). And thank goodness I never put
> a linoleum top on it. Why would one do that? That's asking for ESD
> problems, a lot of work and expense for nothing, and I'd much rather
> smell the wood top burning from a loose soldering iron than burning
> linoleum. I might confuse it with merely blowing another IRF510 PA :-)
>
> And speaking of ESD ... has anyone out there REALLY blown up a chip
> or transistor by merely handling it? The only FET's and transistors
> I have destroyed are from accidentally running 8 amps through them.
> I just don't see the justification for the expense of an ESD mat for
> amateur work, unless you get one for free. And even there, you'd
> have to clean off your entire workbench to lay it down. That's a

> scary thought and 2-3 days work for some of us-hi. ESD destruction of
> parts just is not a serious amateur problem. There have been thousands
> of K2's, K1's, SW-30's, TT2's, SMK-1's, NC-40's, etc. successfully
> built over the years. How many that didn't work were the result of
> blowing a part by static discharge (ESD)? I have seen FAR MORE part
> failures due to premature failure (dead, right out of the bag) rather
> than ESD.
>
> > You will often
> > find your soldering iron has not hit the holder and burned the top, or
> > your drill has slipped!
>
> This is what gives your workbench "character" !
>
> > If you build it with a replaceable top, you
> > will not worry about appearance in the future. This was an industry
> > standard approach.
>
> The appearance of one's workbench has nothing to do with the work that
> comes off of it. "It's a poor craftsman who blames his tools." If you
> want a workbench that's for looks only, fine - gold plate it. If you
> want a workbench to say build something on it, then who cares what it
> looks like? As long as it's functional. The xyl will notify you when
> it exceeds the tolerance level of human usage :-)
>
> I just don't like some of these posts that implies you have to spend
> a bunch of money and time to build some elaborate workbench in order
> to build something, or you have to buy this Japanese rig over that rig
> to have a successful QSO, or your antenna has to be matched to
> 1:1.000000000 SWR, or your code speed has to be at least 25wpm or you
> need to be licensed before WW2 to be a real ham, etc. ... to be
> successful in this hobby. I think it is discouraging a lot of newer
> hams to this group into thinking piddling with QRP gear and making a
> few QSO's is some elaborate business. We're not concerned here with
> industry standards ... but with ham standards, which is basically to
> have fun with this hobby.
>
> To me, a REAL HAM is the guy who actually makes a QSO once in awhile.
> If you haven't squirted some RF into the spectrum in the past few
> months, then what's the point of carrying that piece of paper from
> the FCC in your wallet? To me, the no-code tech who just upgraded to
> general and had his first ever 8 wpm QSO with a 2:1 SWR antenna and a
> non-superhet rig is more of a ham than the guy who got licensed the
> same year as Marconi, but hasn't had a QSO since the Clinton
> administration. Even if he did it with a Tuna Tin II, built on the
> ugliest work bench in town, used lead solder instead of some exotic
> organic crap, and even SMELLED THE FUMES!!!
>

> So ... what does your work bench look like? How did you make it?
> I bet few of you have anything exotic.
>
> 72, Paul NA5N
>
> PS - And for the record, my last QSO was 2 nights ago, not counting
> SKN.

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 13:35:02 -0500
From: "Tracy Markham" <tracy@bytemark.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, <w6toy@erols.com>
Subject: [116854] RE: Static damage
Message-ID: <NFBBKLDHALEHCJMAJPKFCEGMCIAA.tracy@bytemark.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="Windows-1252"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have personally experienced both types of shops - some where you'd have to TRY to damage something, and some where everything you touched made a visible discharge.

I decided (yeah, 'decided' without any real investigation) that it has a lot to do with humidity. Higher humidity tends to allow some conductivity or bleed off.

I did cellular phone repair for years in Orlando, and all the manufacturers required the use of static protection, right down to the shoe straps for some of them. Yup, they inspected, too.

The partial damage thing is what they pressed - they constantly showed us microscope pictures of a partially blown circuit, causing current problems, heating and detuning. It's amazing how that reduction in current carrying area can screw up Q, and a lot of other factors.

Static is real. That's why I sell so damn many static protective work area components!

We put up a nice little discussion about static basics, and a (poor, sorry) microscope photo of a damaged semiconductor. It discusses some of the terms in static electric study such as latent damage and triboelectrification. I love that word :)

<http://www.bytemark.com/static/basics.html>

Anyone else have some links to static related sites??

Tracy Markham, N4LGH
CWS ByteMark
tracy@bytemark.com
800-679-3184

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of
Bruce Muscolino
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 3:16 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: Re: Static damage

Well Mike, you're either incredibly lucky or your company does not have to meet military standards in what ever they do! While it is true that few chips are damaged by static these days, most of them have built in protection diodes, they can still be damaged and may fail at the most inopportune moment!

The company I worked for made auto pilots for military and commercial jets. We used anti static as a matter of course starting in the 60's, with the Lockheed L-1011. We never had a static related failure! Older devices were more prone to this sort of destruction. Just because it has never happened to you does not mean it won't!

73

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 16:32:01 -0500
From: Steve <k8pz@earthlink.net>
To: kb2ypx@yahoo.com
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116855] Re: RICE vs. CONUS RADIOS
Message-ID: <3C34CDD1.5010206@earthlink.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii; format=flowed
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Yup, thats where your Viagra comes from!

R Ramirez wrote:

> BTW, the MAORITY of the prescription/OTC drugs that you take are

> manufactured in PR.... (along with countelss other products)
>
> just my \$0.02
>
> Ricardo
> kb2ypx

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 16:39:24 -0500
From: Steven Weber <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116856] workbenches
Message-ID: <3.0.6.32.20020103163924.007a3750@mailhost.ncia.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

A work bench can be as simple as a card table or massive and solid enough to rebuild a car engine on. All depends on what you need and where you have to put it. If you live in an apartment or condo, you don't have much choice about it and are stuck with a qrp sized bench. When I used to live in that kind of situation, I make a 3x4 foot work table with 2x4 frame and legs, topped with 1/2" particle board. Also had shelves made of 1/2" x 8" pine at the back of the table for the parts cabinets and what not.

My bench now is pretty solid, built with 2x6's screwed to the wall, pine planks on top and is covered with 1/8" pressed fiber board. Linoleum isn't a bad material to use either. I wouldn't worry about static, I worked on a bench for years covered with linoleum tiles and never had a problem. It is a fairly common table top in the industry. I have a roll of linoleum flooring ends, I got from a local rug and tile store which I've been meaning to redo my bench top with, but it's way too much trouble to clean off the bench to do the job. I've got a six foot long bench but only a small working area right in front of me, there's so much clutter accumulated :-). Hardly worth the effort to clean up, I know it will look about the same in a few days anyway! As for drilling holes in the bench top, I have a few, but I try not to be lazy and back up what I'm drilling with a piece of wood.

I
72,
Steve, KD1JV
"Melt Solder"
White Mountains of New Hampshire
<http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 15:55:05 -0600
From: Boliver Allmon <Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com>
To: "'qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU'" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116857] FW: First Kit Suggestions?
Message-ID: <6436BBDD2887D411A2360000E866FEEE01F9CB1E@HOUEXCH045>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain

> The only local contact that I know of has some MFJ kits.
> Since I will probably use the autotuners and keyers, that may
> be the best place to start. The only problem is that without
> a HF rig to test them on, how will I know if they are working
> correctly?
>
> Based on the feedback I have gotten so far, I am beginning to
> wonder if I should work a kit. The problem is that I do not have
> \$800 or more for a ready to work radio. The kits sound like a
> way for a poor boy to have fun.
>
> All the feedback has been good and informative, even if discouraging.
>
> Maybe I just need to get a schematic, go to Radio Shack and burn up
> some resistors as I learn.

> Boliver Allmon
>
>
> *Phone: 713-753-7667
> *Location: KT1942C
> *e-mail: Boliver.Allmon@Halliburton.com
>
>
>

> -----Original Message-----

> From: WE7X@aol.com [SMTP:WE7X@aol.com]
> Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 3:38 PM
> To: Boliver.Allmon@halliburton.com
> Subject: Re: First Kit Suggestions?

> Boliver,
> Do you have any local contacts to go visit, to see what some of the
> stuff
> looks like?
> That would be my first bit of advice. Look at some kits and the

> documentation, get some ideas what seem doable, and then ask some specific
>
> questions about those rigs.
> The K-1 series are very complete rigs, and the documentation and
> testing
> procedures are second to none. That would be a target for a third or
> fourth
> kit.
> There are lots of fine inexpensive kits for station accessories and
> operating aids like keyers and antenna tuners and oone or two transistor
> transmitters to get you going.
> Let us know what you see, and we will offer specific comments.
> WE7X
> Rod

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 16:56:26 -0500
From: "Mike Yetsko" <myetsko@insydesw.com>
To: <n4xy@att.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116858] Re: Static damage... Yes BUT...
Message-ID: <006001c194a1\$b5479f60\$0600a8c0@charter.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Common sense IS 90% of the solution.

Just remember, it's the DIFFERENCE in static that is the problem,
when circuits try to suddenly change.

Just as speed doesn't kill, the sudden change (as in a brick wall)
does, the same thing applies here.

Common sense can do a lot towards preventing problems. But to
say their is 'no' problem, as some have done, and will continue to
do in the future, is silly, and shows a lot of ignorance.

Yes, common sense, with a little bit of luck, can make the problem
manageable to the point where someone who is unaware of the
situation think there is no problem.

Mike

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 17:01:53 -0500
From: Bill Coleman <aa4lr@arrl.net>
To: <w3irz@att.net>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116859] Re: Static damage
Message-ID: <20020103220307.0F0S11348.imf15bis.bellsouth.net@[192.168.0.21]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"

On 1/3/02 2:51 PM, Mike Branca at w3irz@att.net wrote:

>Boy, I'm with Paul Harden, NA5N who says that static is not a problem. I
>have handled thousands of IC's. FETs computer boards and so on and have
>never zapped a thing.

As a fellow from Savannah, GA once wrote: There are places in the world
where during certain times of the year, you couldn't raise a static
charge by rubbing two nylon cats together....

Static damage is rare with modern parts because the chip designers put in
features to prevent it.

I have my share of zapped parts, most from about 25 years ago.

Bill Coleman, AA4LR, PP-ASEL Mail: aa4lr@arrl.net
Quote: "Not within a thousand years will man ever fly!"
 -- Wilbur Wright, 1901

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 14:05:37 -0800
From: "Church, Norm" <norm.church@transcore.com>
To: "'Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com'" <Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Cc: "Church, Norm" <norm.church@transcore.com>
Subject: [116860] RE: First Kit Suggestions?
Message-ID: <9950426C1004CE47ACEA3B1421A5294371E7C0@apache.transcore.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset=iso-8859-1
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Ramsey Electronics has some QRP kits that look like they might be good for a

first-time project.
<http://www.ramseyelectronics.com/hk/hkarg.htm>
73,
Norm Church K7NGC

-----Original Message-----

From: Boliver Allmon [mailto:Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 1:55 PM
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion
Subject: FW: First Kit Suggestions?

> The only local contact that I know of has some MFJ kits.
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> Maybe I just need to get a schematic, go to Radio Shack and burn up
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>
>
> Boliver Allmon
>
>
> *Phone: 713-753-7667
> *Location: KT1942C
> *e-mail: Boliver.Allmon@Halliburton.com

> -----Original Message-----

> From: WE7X@aol.com [SMTP:WE7X@aol.com]
> Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 3:38 PM
> To: Boliver.Allmon@halliburton.com
> Subject: Re: First Kit Suggestions?

> Boliver,
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> operating aids like keyers and antenna tuners and one or two transistor
> transmitters to get you going.
> Let us know what you see, and we will offer specific comments.
> WE7X
> Rod

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 17:14:20 -0500
From: Donn Kuse <casey.jay@gte.net>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116861] Re: First Year Licensed
Message-ID: <3C34D7BC.F613AB4B@gte.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I believe most people know the year and sometimes the month they were first licensed. But I believe the original question was the exact date they got their license. Yes, you can check a log book and see when your first contact was, but that doesn't necessarily mean it was the same date you got your license from the FCC, and then the date on the license would be different than the date you got it. I can remember the month and year, but not the exact date I got my Novice ticket. Exam was before an FCC examiner. Was issued WN4ZWT at the time, but don't remember if I got an interim ticket from the examiner or not.

Enjoyed all the comments.

73, Donn, WB4ZWT

66 and still learning

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 14:41:57 -0700
From: Ron KU7Y <mswmod@bigplanet.com>

To: W5YR <w5yr@att.net>,
Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116862] Re: SWR, Theroy vs. Real World Conditions
Message-ID: <000501c194a0\$58ff7760\$cfc0a9d8@oemcomputer>
MIME-version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=iso-8859-1
Content-transfer-encoding: 7bit

Hi George and All,

Good post and a good example of why I tend to stay away from technical issues..... I usually manage to get something stated in less than clear terms.

George's response is a great example of what I like about this list and why I don't mind much of the "noise level".

However, I don't mind the term "output impedance" but can see George's point too. What I was meaning by that term was the output impedance is what you need to connect to the antenna fitting. If that isn't really 50 ohms on the rig side and is something else that just needs to have 50 ohms connected to it then OK. But I ****think**** that the output of the matching network that is between the final device and the antenna connector is designed to transform the low or high impedance of the device (the input side of the network) to the nominal impedance of our antennas (the output side).

I realize that I'm showing my ignorance here but that's how we learn.....or me at least! To design the "matching" circuit to go between the amp and the antenna, don't you need to use both the impedance of the device at it's output side and the impedance of the load you want to see connected to it?

Don't get me wrong, I'm not looking for a bunch of math that I don't understand, (it doesn't take much to get past my little bit of high school math!) but rather a simple (if possible) explanation of how you make the "transformer" or whatever it might be called.

I look at the old rigs with the Pi networks and I ****remember**** (dangerous thing for us OF's to attempt doing!) that they were touted as being able to match the output of the tube to any load between XXX and XXX ohms.

Where am I going wrong in my thinking?

To me this point, the output of the rig at the antenna terminal, can be called the output impedance of the rig. I don't mean to argue but say this because that term seems to "feel" right to me. (And my having heard it and used it for about 50 years might have something to do with it too!).

And you don't need to be "new" to learn from this list. Look at me..... I've

been licensed since 52 (I think.....maybe 53) and I still learn something almost every time I read the list.

But everyone....don't forget the object of the original post..... don't worry about a small amount of SWR. If it's less than 3:1 most rigs will work just fine. If you have a tuner don't be afraid to use it. Bottom line????

Get on the air and have some fun!

And George, please don't take this post wrong. I really am just trying to learn too!

OK, back in my hole.....

Ron, KU7Y
ku7y@qsl.net
Full Time RVing somewhere in the West
Currently in Brenda, AZ.

Date: 3 Jan 2002 17:32:16 EST
From: Lee Wilson <leesgoofy@usa.net>
To: Low power amateur radio discussion <Qrp-l@Lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116863] Workbench Question?
Message-ID: <20020103223216.1157.qmail@cpdvgl100.netaddress.usa.net>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Hello

Has anyone used a folding table for a workbench?
Also would you add anything to make it =

more functional? =

Thanks =

Lee Wilson
AC7KT

Get free e-mail and a permanent address at <http://www.amexmail.com/?A=3D1=>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 17:53:58 -0500
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
To: <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>,
 "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116864] Re: workbenches
Message-ID: <00d901c194a9\$88113ee0\$6401a8c0@cox.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

My current bench is covered with carpet because I like to build an occasional acoustic guitar. For my new shop when I get moved to WV and the monster garage is built, I intend to build with 2x4 legs supporting a shelf stretcher, 3/4" birch plywood top, and then cover the top with whatever the new name for masonite is and frame it with hard wood such as oak or maple. If I a project does really terrible damage to the bench top, it is relatively easy to replace the masonite with a new piece.

I also like a long, deep (10-12") shelf running along the back wall of the bench up about 18" but within easy reach. It is handy to collect piles of tools for various projects and saves trips to the tool lockers!

73 de Lee
km4yy

I hate to advocate drugs, alcohol, violence, or insanity to anyone, but they've always worked for me.

--Hunter S. Thompson

----- Original Message -----

From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 4:39 PM
Subject: workbenches

> A work bench can be as simple as a card table or massive and solid enough
> to
> rebuild a car engine on. All depends on what you need and where you have
> to
> put it. If you live in an apartment or condo, you don't have much choice
> about it and are stuck with a qrp sized bench. When I used to live in that

> kind of situation, I make a 3x4 foot work table with 2x4 frame and legs,
> topped with 1/2" partical board. Also had shelves made of 1/2" x 8" pine
at
> the back of the table for the parts cabinets and what not.
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> My bench now is pretty solid, built with 2x6's screwed to the wall, pine
> planks on top and is covered with 1/8" pressed fiber board. Linolium isn't
> a bad matterial to use either. I woudn't worry about static, I worked on a
> bench for years covered with linolium tiles and never had a problem. It is
> a fairly common table top in the industry. I have a roll of linolium
> flooring ends, I got from a local rug and tile store which I've been
> meaning to redo my bench top with, but it's way too much trouble to clean
> off the bench to do the job. I've got a six foot long bench but only a
> small working area right in front of me, there's so much clutter
> accumulated :-). Hardly worth the effort to clean up, I know it will look
> about the same in a few days anyway! As for drilling holes in the bench
> top, I have a few, but I try not to be lazy and back up what I'm drilling
> with a piece of wood.
>
> I
> 72,
> Steve, KD1JV
> "Melt Solder"
> White Mountians of New Hampshire
> <http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 18:01:41 -0500
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: leesgoofy@usa.net
Cc: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116865] Re: Workbench Question?
Message-ID: <3C34E2D5.F655D6D1@erols.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I have used a card table for a workbench. I have also known others who
used them. I also have a folding "conference table" that I have used as
a workbench. They work but are only as stable as their age allows! If
you must use one, I would be very careful that the legs stay square and
you don't put anything too heavy on them!

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 17:09:13 -0600
From: "tmyers" <tmyers@AcademicPlanet.com>
To: "QRP-L Post" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116866] Need source (cheap)
Message-ID: <00b301c194ab\$aa68d500\$1600a8c0@newkid>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'm looking for a parabolic dish in the 2 to 3 foot diameter range.
This will be handheld so the lighter the better.

Anyone have some source ideas?

KQ5U, Terry
Spring, Texas

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 18:16:35 -0500
From: "ZOOM" <kandrparker@sympatico.ca>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116867] Re: Workbench Question?
Message-ID: <004801c194ac\$b0bac340\$99a4fea9@robertpa>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
 charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

If you need a folding table I have seen the new plastic folding tables at
Home Depot. They are very strong.

Regards,
Robert
VE3RPF

----- Original Message -----
From: Bruce Muscolino <w6toy@erols.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 6:01 PM
Subject: Re: Workbench Question?

> I have used a card table for a workbench. I have also known others who
> used them. I also have a folding "conference table" that I have used as

> a workbench. They work but are only as stable as their age allows! If
> you must use one, I would be very careful that the legs stay square and
> you don't put anything too heavy on them!
>
> 73

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 18:19:28 -0500
From: "ZOOM" <kandrparker@sympatico.ca>
To: <tmyers@AcademicPlanet.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116868] Re: Need source (cheap)
Message-ID: <005301c194ad\$176da800\$99a4fea9@robertpa>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

And you want to carry this around?
I'm curious! What are you building?

----- Original Message -----
From: tmyers <tmyers@AcademicPlanet.com>
To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 6:09 PM
Subject: Need source (cheap)

> I'm looking for a parabolic dish in the 2 to 3 foot diameter range.
> This will be handheld so the lighter the better.
>
> Anyone have some source ideas?
>
> KQ5U, Terry
> Spring, Texas
>
>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 15:27:24 -0500
From: "Tracy Markham" <tracy@bytemark.com>
To: "QRP-L" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>, <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
Subject: [116869] RE: workbenches
Message-ID: <NFB BKLDHALEHCJMAJPKFMEGOCIAA.tracy@bytemark.com>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Kitchen Countertops.

I've built many workbenches with 'em. They look good, and if you're not too picky you can usually talk Home Depot or the like out of the ones that have been sitting too long for a good price.

And they have the splash board on the back.

I've built several professional benches using these counter tops, and an 18 to 24 inch plywood 'back shelf' for the instrumentation. That gave a great place for the test gear, and the splash board was a great place to put plugs and connectors.

Inexpensive and very professional looking. You can get unfinished cabinets as well fairly inexpensively to put them on, and you're organized! Nice thing about some of the do it yourself home places is they have all the stuff to build a nice, inexpensive (relatively) functional workspace that even a demanding YL would approve of :)

Tracy N4LGH

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU [mailto:owner-qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU] On Behalf Of Lee Mairs

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 5:54 PM

To: Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion

Subject: Re: workbenches

My current bench is covered with carpet because I like to build an occasional acoustic guitar. For my new shop when I get moved to WV and the monster garage is built, I intend to build with 2x4 legs supporting a shelf stretcher, 3/4" birch plywood top, and then cover the top with whatever the new name for masonite is and frame it with hard wood such as oak or maple. If a project does really terrible damage to the bench top, it is relatively easy to replace the masonite with a new piece.

I also like a long, deep (10-12") shelf running along the back wall of the bench up about 18" but within easy reach. It is handy to collect piles of tools for various projects and saves trips to the tool lockers!

73 de Lee

km4yy

I hate to advocate drugs, alcohol, violence, or insanity to anyone, but

they've always worked for me.

--Hunter S. Thompson

----- Original Message -----

From: "Steven Weber" <kd1jv@moose.ncia.net>

To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>

Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 4:39 PM

Subject: workbenches

> A work bench can be as simple as a card table or massive and solid enough
> to
> rebuild a car engine on. All depends on what you need and where you have
> to
> put it. If you live in an apartment or condo, you don't have much choice
> about it and are stuck with a qrp sized bench. When I used to live in that
> kind of situation, I make a 3x4 foot work table with 2x4 frame and legs,
> topped with 1/2" particle board. Also had shelves made of 1/2" x 8" pine
> at
> the back of the table for the parts cabinets and what not.
>
> My bench now is pretty solid, built with 2x6's screwed to the wall, pine
> planks on top and is covered with 1/8" pressed fiber board. Linoleum isn't
> a bad material to use either. I wouldn't worry about static, I worked on a
> bench for years covered with linoleum tiles and never had a problem. It is
> a fairly common table top in the industry. I have a roll of linoleum
> flooring ends, I got from a local rug and tile store which I've been
> meaning to redo my bench top with, but it's way too much trouble to clean
> off the bench to do the job. I've got a six foot long bench but only a
> small working area right in front of me, there's so much clutter
> accumulated :-). Hardly worth the effort to clean up, I know it will look
> about the same in a few days anyway! As for drilling holes in the bench
> top, I have a few, but I try not to be lazy and back up what I'm drilling
> with a piece of wood.
>
> I
> 72,
> Steve, KD1JV
> "Melt Solder"
> White Mountains of New Hampshire
> <http://www.qsl.net/kd1jv/>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 18:25:56 EST

From: Rlemmel@aol.com

To: qrp-1@lehigh.edu
Subject: [116870] Repaired Tuffle Report
Message-ID: <39.205da494.29664284@aol.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Had a couple of corrections:

0130 2 JAN 02 TRUFFLE LOG.V2

| | | | | | |
|------|--------|-----|----|--------|-------|
| 0131 | K4GT | 559 | GA | JIM | 5W |
| 0132 | KC8NYW | 5NN | OH | ROB | 5W |
| 0133 | W8DIZ | 579 | OH | DIZ | 5W |
| 0134 | W5YR | 559 | TX | GEORGE | 5W |
| 0135 | W0CH | 579 | MO | DAVE | 900MW |
| 0137 | N8VAR | 55N | OH | RON | 5W |
| 0140 | KD5KXF | 55N | TX | MIKE | 5W |
| 0141 | K8CV | 55N | MI | WALT | 5W |
| 0142 | WA8BXN | 559 | OH | MIKE | 5W |
| 0144 | W9HL | 559 | IL | RANDY | 5W |
| 0145 | W0IS | 5NN | MN | DICK | 5W |
| 0146 | K8KFJ | 5NN | WV | GARY | 5W |
| 0149 | W3SMK | 5NN | NJ | STEVE | 5W |
| 0150 | KG4LDY | 55N | VA | JIM | 5W |
| 0151 | K4FB | 55N | FL | PAUL | 5W |
| 0152 | AC5JH | 55N | OK | TOM | 5W |
| 0154 | K4ADI | 55N | SC | FRANK | 5W |
| 0156 | K1KID | 56N | MA | CARL | 5W |
| 0157 | K5JHP | 55N | TX | BILL | 5W |
| 0159 | AF4PS | 55N | FL | MAC | 5W |
| 0200 | AJ4AY | 55N | AL | JAY | 5W |
| 0200 | WV9N | | | | |

72-WV9N, Randy

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 17:30:36 -0600
From: Glen Reid <k5fx@arrl.net>
To: QRP-1 Discussion <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116871] Thanks to ALL who replied
Message-ID: <3C34E99C.4377E7E6@arrl.net>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Thanks for all the terrific workbench top suggestions. I am sure I will be able to use several of them.

gr

--

GLEN (Just call me "BUCK") REID
K5FX
Austin, Texas

The difference between stupidity and genius is that...
genius has its limits.

Date: Thu, 03 Jan 2002 18:34:24 -0500
From: Dave Fouchey <dafouchey@home.com>
To: na5n@rt66.com,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Subject: [116872] Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?
Message-ID: <4.1.20020103183002.00918d00@localhost>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Amen Paul! I used a couple of solid core flush doors from a surplus place for the work bench AND the Radio desk, a little bit of creative cutting some novel angles cut, a few screws some stain and varnish and voila first class workbench built to MY stature. And being in the Basement the XYL doesn't complain TOO much..I did put quarter round moulding along the edges so parts don't roll off to become cat toys. the nicks, scorch marks, coffee and tea stains simply add to the ambiance. IMHO. Now if I could just do something about this fading visual acuity..

don't worry so much guys.

73's/72

Dave
WA4EMR/8

At 11:03 AM 1/3/2002 -0700, Paul Harden, NA5N wrote:

>

>On Thu, 3 Jan 2002, Bruce Muscolino wrote:

>> Build it so you can easily replace the work surface. Start with a
>> plywood or pressed wood sub top. Cover this with a sheet of linoleum.

>

>Why? I have the same workbench at home I've had for 25 years, and
>the same workbench at work for the same length. No need yet to

>replace the surface.

>

>At home, my electronic work bench is simply made from a 2.5ft x 6.5ft
>standard wooden door, like used for an internal closet door. 4 angle
>brackets, four 2x4's for legs and a dozen or so wood screws ... walla ...
>work bench. Some parts cabinets along the back, bench vise here,
>soldering iron there. Sure, it has little holes drilled through it
>from making enclosures, burned marks from the soldering iron, stains
>from a few spilled cups of coffee, that squashed cockroach I think is
>still under the scope, etc. But that's only noticeable when I get
>around to cleaning off the bench :-) Normally those blemishes are covered
>with the projects on the bench and a layer of resistors and caps
>everywhere. (Photo's upon request!). And thank goodness I never put
>a linoleum top on it. Why would one do that? That's asking for ESD
>problems, a lot of work and expense for nothing, and I'd much rather
>smell the wood top burning from a loose soldering iron than burning
>linoleum. I might confuse it with merely blowing another IRF510 PA :-)

>

>And speaking of ESD ... has anyone out there REALLY blown up a chip
>or transistor by merely handling it? The only FET's and transistors
>I have destroyed are from accidentally running 8 amps through them.
>I just don't see the justification for the expense of an ESD mat for
>amateur work, unless you get one for free. And even there, you'd
>have to clean off your entire workbench to lay it down. That's a
>scary thought and 2-3 days work for some of us-hi. ESD destruction of
>parts just is not a serious amateur problem. There have been thousands
>of K2's, K1's, SW-30's, TT2's, SMK-1's, NC-40's, etc. successfully
>built over the years. How many that didn't work were the result of
>blowing a part by static discharge (ESD)? I have seen FAR MORE part
>failures due to premature failure (dead, right out of the bag) rather
>than ESD.

>

>> You will often
>> find your soldering iron has not hit the holder and burned the top, or
>> your drill has slipped!

>

>This is what gives your workbench "character" !

>

>> If you build it with a replaceable top, you
>> will not worry about appearance in the future. This was an industry
>> standard approach.

>

>The appearance of one's workbench has nothing to do with the work that
>comes off of it. "It's a poor craftsman who blames his tools." If you
>want a workbench that's for looks only, fine - gold plate it. If you
>want a workbench to say build something on it, then who cares what it
>looks like? As long as it's functional. The xyl will notify you when
>it exceeds the tolerance level of human usage :-)

>
>I just don't like some of these posts that implies you have to spend
>a bunch of money and time to build some elaborate workbench in order
>to build something, or you have to buy this Japanese rig over that rig
>to have a successful QSO, or your antenna has to be matched to
>1:1.000000000 SWR, or your code speed has to be at least 25wpm or you
>need to be licensed before WW2 to be a real ham, etc. ... to be
>successful in this hobby. I think it is discouraging a lot of newer
>hams to this group into thinking piddling with QRP gear and making a
>few QSO's is some elaborate business. We're not concerned here with
>industry standards ... but with ham standards, which is basically to
>have fun with this hobby.
>
>To me, a REAL HAM is the guy who actually makes a QSO once in awhile.
>If you haven't squirted some RF into the spectrum in the past few
>months, then what's the point of carrying that piece of paper from
>the FCC in your wallet? To me, the no-code tech who just upgraded to
>general and had his first ever 8 wpm QSO with a 2:1 SWR antenna and a
>non-superhet rig is more of a ham than the guy who got licensed the
>same year as Marconi, but hasn't had a QSO since the Clinton
>administration. Even if he did it with a Tuna Tin II, built on the
>ugliest work bench in town, used lead solder instead of some exotic
>organic crap, and even SMELLED THE FUMES!!!
>
>So ... what does your work bench look like? How did you make it?
>I bet few of you have anything exotic.
>
>72, Paul NA5N
>
>PS - And for the record, my last QSO was 2 nights ago, not counting
>SKN.
>
>
>

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 18:51:58 -0500
From: "Lee Mairs" <lmairs@cox.rr.com>
To: <dafouchey@home.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116873] Fading Visual Acuity
Message-ID: <013c01c194b1\$a239be20\$6401a8c0@cox.rr.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I went to my optometrist and had her make me up a set of bi-focals where the bottom reading part was jut what was required for reading, but the upper part had a focal length such that I could see across the bench. These have worked great, until this SMT stuff came along...

A few years ago Home Depot had some 500 watt overhead halogen lights. I mounted a set over my bench and a set over the tool/parts cabinets. They electric meter made the house precess, but I could really see stuff. Had to replace them with florescent lights once summer arrived. The A/C couldn't keep up with the heat they generated...

73 de Lee
km4yy

...each new generation born is in effect an invasion of civilization by little barbarians, who must be civilized before it is too late.
--Thomas Sowell

----- Original Message -----

From: "Dave Fouchey" <dafouchey@home.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 6:34 PM
Subject: Re: Workbench Top Recommendations?

> Amen Paul! I used a couple of solid core flush doors from a surplus place
> for the work bench AND the Radio desk, a little bit of creative cutting
> some novel angles cut, a few screws some stain and varnish and voila first
> class workbench built to MY stature. And being in the Basement the XYL
> doesn't complain TOO much..I did put quarter round moulding along the
edges
> so parts don't roll off to become cat toys. the nicks, scorch marks,
coffee
> and tea stains simply add to the ambiance. IMHO. Now if I could just do
> something about this fading visual acuity..

Date: Thu, 3 Jan 2002 18:51:15 -0500
From: "ss lyon" <sslyon@megalink.net>
To: <Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com>,
"Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-l@lehigh.edu>
Subject: [116874] Re: First Kit Suggestions?
Message-ID: <004501c194b1\$8810a900\$038798ce@megalink.net>

MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

I'd recommend getting in on the "Elmer" project (just started) with the SW series rigs by Small Wonder Labs. You get a massive amount of collective experience to guide you, and that's in addition to an excellent manual and customer service by one of the best in the business. For about \$55 US, you get a serious rig that provides serious performance, rather than frustrations.

73

AA1MY

Seabury & Sharon Lyon
99 Sparrowhawk Mtn Rd
Bethel ME, 04217 U.S.A.
207-836-2576

Virus Protection by Norton and ZoneAlarm

----- Original Message -----

From: "Boliver Allmon" <Boliver.Allmon@HALLIBURTON.com>
To: "Low Power Amateur Radio Discussion" <qrp-1@Lehigh.EDU>
Sent: Thursday, January 03, 2002 2:35 PM
Subject: First Kit Suggestions?

> I am wanting to build a radio. I am new to kit building,
> but I want to try to do it. I realize that failure may come
> before success, but never trying is failing.
>
> Any suggestions for a first kit? Any type will be considered.
> I realize that "small" increases difficulty factor, but to put a
> radio in a small container would be interesting, but so would
> building a tube based radio.
>
> Transceiver or transmitter and receiver?
>
> Maybe a elmer here in the Houston, TX area?
>
> Still working on the code to get my General ticket.
> Target date to get ticket is March 1, 2002.
>
> Thanks
>
> > Boliver Allmon
> >
> >
> > *Phone: 713-753-7667

> > *Location: KT1942C
> > *e-mail: Boliver.Allmon@Halliburton.com
> >
> >
> >

End of QRP-L Digest 2425
